The Old Commonwealth.

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RING THE BELL SOFTLY.

BY DEXTER SMITH.

Some one has gone from this strange world of ours,
No more to gather its thorns with its flowers;
No more to linger where sunbeams must fade,
Where, on all beauty, death's fingers are laid;
Weary with mingling life's bitter with sweet,
Weary with parting, and never to meet,
Some one has gone to the bright, golden shore;
Ring the bell softly, there's crape on the door!
Ring the bell *softly*, there's crape on the door!

Some one is resting, from sorrow and sin,
Happy where earth's conflicts enter not in;
Joyous as birds, when the morning is bright,
When the sweet sunbeams have brought us their light.
Weary with sowing and never to reap,
Weary with labor, and welcoming sleep,
Some one's departed to heaven's bright shore—
Ring the bell softly, there's crape on the door!
Ring the bell *softly*, there's crape on the door!

Angels were anxiously longing to meet
One who walks with them in heaven's bright street;
Loved ones have whispered that some one is blest—
Free from earth's trials, and taking sweet rest.
Yes! there is one more in angelic bliss—
One less to cherish, and one less to kiss;
One more departed to heaven's bright shore—
Ring the bell softly, there's crape on the door!
Ring the bell *softly*, there's crape on the door!

The Way to Keep Him.

"Out again to-night," said Mrs. Hayes, fretfully, as her husband rose from the tea-table, and donned his great coat.

"Yes, I have an engagement with Moore; I shall be in early; have a light in the library; good night, and with a careless nod, William Hayes left the room.

"Always the way," murmured Lizzie Hayes, sinking back upon a sofa; "out every night; I don't believe he cares one bit about me now, and yet we've only been married two years. No man has a more orderly house; I am not a bit extravagant, and yet I don't believe he loves me any more.—Oh, dear, why is it? I wasn't rich; he didn't marry me for money, and he must have loved me then—why does he treat me with so much neglect?"—And with her mind filled with such fretful querries, Lizzie Hayes fell asleep on the sofa.

Let me paint her figure as she lay there: She was a blonde, with a small, graceful figure, and a very pretty face. The hair, which showed by its rich waves its natural tendency to curl, was brushed smoothly back, and gathered into a rich knot at the back—"it was such a bother to curl it," she said—her cheeks were pale, and the whole face wore a discontented expression. Her dress was a neat chintz wrapper, but she wore neither collar nor sleeves—"what's the use of dressing up for William?"

Lizzie slept soundly for two hours, and then awoke suddenly. She sat up, glanced at the clock, and sighed drearily at the prospect of the long interval still to be spent alone before bed time.

The library was just over the room in which she sat, and down the furnace flue, through the registers, a voice came to the young wife's ears; it was her husband's.

"Well, Moore, what's a man to do? I was disappointed, and I must have pleasure somewhere. Who would have fancied that Lizzie Jarvis, so pretty, sprightly and loving, could have changed to the fretful dowdy she is now? Who wants to stay at home to hear his wife whining all the evening about her troublesome servants, and her headache and all sorts of bother? She's got the knack of that drawling whine so pat, that, 'pon my life, I don't believe she can speak pleasant."

Lizzie sat as if stunned. Was this true? She looked into the glass. If not dowdy, her costume was certainly not suitable for an evening at home even with only William to admire. She arose and softly went to her own room, with bitter, sorrowful thoughts, and a firm resolution to win back her husband's heart, and then his love regained to keep it.

The next morning, William came into the breakfast-room in his usual careless manner, but a bright smile came to his lips as he saw Lizzie. A pretty chintz, with a pretty collar and sleeves of snowy muslin, and a wreath of soft, full curls, had really metamorphosed her, while the blush her husband's admiring glance called up to her cheek, did not detract from her beauty. At first William thought there must be a guest, but glancing around he found they were alone.

"Come, William, your coffee will be stone cold," said Lizzie, in a cheery, pleasant voice.

"It must be cool till you sweeten my breakfast with a kiss," said her husband, crossing the room to her side; and Lizzie's heart bounded as she recognized the old lover's tone and manners.

Not one fretful speech, not one complaint, fell upon William's ear through the meal. The newspaper, his usual solace during that hour, lay untouched, as Lizzie chatted gaily on every pleasant subject she could think of, warming by his gratified interest and cordial manners.

"You will be home to dinner?" she said, as he went out.

"Can't to-day, Lizzie. I have business out of town, but I'll be home early to tea. Have something substantial, for I don't expect to dine. Good-bye," and the smiling look, warm kiss and lively whistle were a marked contrast to his careless, lounging gait of the evening previous.

"I am in the right path," said Lizzie, in a low whisper. "Oh, what a fool I have been for the last two years. A 'fretful dowdy.' William, you shall never say so again."

Lizzie loved her husband with real wifely devotion, and her lips would quiver as she thought of his confidence to his friend Moore; but like a brave little woman, she stifled back the bitter feeling, and tripped off to perfect her plans. The grand piano, silent for months, was opened, and the linen cover taken from the furniture. Lizzie thinking—"He shan't find any parlors more attractive than his own. I am determined."

Tea time came, and William came with it. A little figure in a tasty, bright silk dress, smooth curls, and oh, such a lovely blush and smile, stood ready to welcome William as he came in, and tea time passed as the morning meal had done.

After tea, there was no movement, as usual, towards the hat-rack. William stood up beside the table lingering, chattering, till Lizzie arose. She led him to the light warm parlors, in their pretty glow of tasteful arrangements, and drew him down beside her on the sofa. He felt as if he was courting her again as he watched her fingers busy with some needle-work, and listened to the cheerful voice which he had loved so well two years before.

"What are you making, Lizzie?"

"A pair of slippers. Don't you remember how you admired the pair I worked for you, oh! ever so long ago?"

"I remember; black velvet with flowers on them. I used to put my feet on the fender and dream of blue eyes and bright curls, and wish time would move faster to the day when I could bring my bonnie wee wife home, to make music in my house."

Lizzie's face saddened for a moment, as she thought of the last two years and how little music she had made for his loving heart, gradually weaning it from its allegiance; then she said:

"I wonder if you like music as much as you did then?"

"Of course I do. I often go in at Mrs. Smith's for nothing else than to hear the music."

"I can play and sing better than Miss Smith," said Lizzie, half pouting.

"But you always say you are out of practice when I ask you."

"I had the piano tuned this morning. Now open it and we shall see how it sounds."

William obeyed joyfully, and tossing aside her sewing, Lizzie took the piano stool. She had a sweet voice, not powerful but most musical, and was a very fair performer on the piano.

"Ballads, Lizzie?"

"Oh, yes, I know you dislike opera music in a parlor."

One song after another, with a nocturne occasionally between them, filled up another hour pleasantly.

The little mantle clock struck eleven.

"Eleven! I thought it was about nine. I ought to apologize, Lizzie, as I used to for staying so long; and I can truly say, as I did then, that the time has passed so pleasantly I can scarcely believe it is so late."

The piano was closed, Lizzie's work put in the basket, and William was ready to go up stairs; but glancing back; he saw his little wife near the fireplace, her hands clasped, her head bent and large tears falling from her eyes. He was beside her in an instant.

"Lizzie, darling, are you ill? What is the matter?"

"Oh, William, I have been such a bad wife. I heard you tell Mr. Moore last evening how I had disappointed you; but I will try to make your home pleasant, indeed I will, if you will only forgive and love me."

"Love you? Oh, Lizzie, you cannot guess how dearly I love you!"

And as the little wife lay down that night, she thought:

"I have won him back again! Better than that, I have learned the way to keep him!"

* * *

A country editor once received the following:—"Dear Sir: I have looked carefully and patiently over your paper for six months, for the death of some individual I was acquainted with, but as yet not a single soul, I care anything about, has dropped off. You will please to have my name erased."

* * *

Fools build houses and wise men buy them.

* * *

Gold goes in at any gate except heaven's.

* * *

Out of debt out of danger.

THE SIGNERS
OF THE
DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

FRANCIS LIGHTFOOT LEE.

Francis Lightfoot Lee, a younger brother of Richard Henry Lee, was born in Westmoreland county, Virginia, on the fourteenth day of October, 1734. He was too young when his father died to be sent abroad to be educated, but was favored with every advantage in the way of learning which the colony afforded. He was placed at an early age under the care of the Reverend Doctor Craig, a Scotch clergyman of eminent piety and learning. His excellent tutor not only educated his head but his heart, and laid the foundation of character, upon which the noble superstructure, which his useful life exhibited, was reared.

On the return of Richard Henry Lee from England, whither he had been to acquire a thorough education, Francis, who was then just stepping from youth into manhood, was deeply impressed with his various acquirements and polished manners, and adopted him as a model for imitation. He leaned upon his brother's judgment in all matters, and the sentiments which moved the one impelled the other to action. And when his brother with his sweet voice and persuasive manner, endeavored, by popular harangues, to arouse his friends and neighbors to a sense of the impending danger, which act after act of British oppression shadowed forth, Francis caught his spirit of politics, he was a full-fledged patriot, and with a "pure heart and clean hands" he espoused the cause of freedom.

In 1765, Mr. Lee was elected a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses, for Loudon county, while his brother was member of the same House, for Westmoreland county. By annual election, he continued a member of the Virginia Assembly for Loudon, until 1772, when he married the daughter of Col. John Taylor, of Richmond, and moved to that city. He was at once elected a member for Richmond, and continued to represent that county until 1775, when the Virginia Convention elected him a delegate to the Continental Congress. During his whole term of service in the General Assembly of his State, he always acted in concert with the patriotic burgesses. Mr. Lee was not a fluent speaker, and seldom engaged in debate; but his sound judgment, unwavering principles, and persevering industry, made him a useful member of any legislative assembly. He sympathized with his brother in his yearnings for independence, and it was with great joy, that he voted for and signed the instrument which declared his country free.

Mr. Lee continued in Congress, until 1779, and was the member, for Virginia, of the committee which framed the Articles of Confederation. Early in the spring of 1779, he retired from Congress and returned home, with the intention of withdrawing wholly from public life, to enjoy those sweets of domestic quiet which he so ardently loved. But his fellow citizens were unwilling to dispense with his valuable services, and elected him a member of the Virginia Senate. He, however, remained there but for a brief season, and then bade adieu to public employments. He could never again be induced to leave his domestic pleasures; and he passed the remainder of his days in agricultural pursuits, and the enjoyments to be derived from reading and study, and the cheerful intercourse with friends. Possessed of ample wealth, he used it like a philosopher and a Christian in dispensing its blessings for the benefit of his country and his fellow men.

In April, 1797, he was prostrated by an attack of pleurisy, which terminated his life in the course of a few days. He was in the sixty-third year of his age. His wife was attacked by the same disease, and died a few days after the decease of her husband.

* * *

Lord Clare, who was much opposed to Curran, one day brought a Newfoundland dog upon the bench, and, during Curran's speech, turned aside and carrossed the annimal. Curran stopped. "Go on, go on, Mr. Curran," said Lord Clare. "Oh! I beg a thousand pardons," was the rejoinder, "I thought your lordship was in consultation.

* * *

'Gentlemen and ladies,' said a showman; "here you have the magnificent painting of Daniel in the lion's den. Daniel can be easily distinguished from the lion by the green cotton umbrella under his arm.

* * *

A Hartford man wants to sell a farm in which "meandering streams and rivulets permeate luxuriant pastures, while majestic oaks and stately maples attract the eye of the beholder."

A GERMAN RAILWAY STORY.

It was in a third class carriage. She was a pleasant faced young woman, going, I think, for the first time after her marriage, to visit her parents in her old home, to show them their two fine grandchildren. At least, this was the little history I built up for her in my own brain from a word or two I heard between her and her young husband at the station, as he put her into the carriage with an affectionte farewell. I always watch with great interest the farewells and greetings of my fellow travelers, and have a fashion of thinking out for myself the whole story of their previous lives from the little hints that I get in this way. It is to me as if I were permitted to open the second volume of an interesting romance, and allowed to read only one short scene in this, and asked to guess as nearly as possible from this one scene the previous course of the story and the characters of the actors in it.

The young child was an infant of about three or four months old—very quiet and good; the other was a pretty, restless little girl of three, and kept the careful mother busy by her questions and wants and childish prattle. She was not at all bashful, and soon talked to us also in such a natural, coquettish, condescending way, that we were quite in love with the charming little lassie, and begged her mother not to check her innocent advances to us.

When we had been traveling together for two or three hours, and begin to feel quite like old acquaintances, while the train was going at full speed, the mother half arose from her seat to place the little girl who had left her place, again on the opposite seat. How it happened I never understood; it was one of those accidents which seems impossible, and, in fact, only happens once in a hundred thousand times; just as she stood half erect, holding her sleeping babe upon one arm, and her little frolicsome maiden somewhat awkardly on the other, the little girl made one of her sudden and quick movements, and in an instant she was gone from our eyes.

What a moment! The poor mother stood fixed and rigid in exactly the same attitude, her arms still bent as though around her child, gazing with wide open, fixed eyes at the place where she vanished. She seemed literally suddenly turned to stone; with the rest of us the case was almost the same. How long this lasted I do not know; doubtless it seemed to us much longer than it really was. Then the young mother seemed to come to herself, and made a sudden movement as if she would spring through the window after her vanished darling, now so far away. I caught her quickly fast and held her, while the kind young lady who sat opposite to me took the baby from her arms, and we all began to talk together, no one listening to the other, about what was to be done for her. Somehow we managed in our excitement to do all that was possible; the guard come, the train stopped, and the mother, without speaking to one of us, or even looking at us, left the train, supporting herself on one arm of the sympathizing guard, while he held the still sleeping babe fast in the other.

Of course the train must go with increased speed to make up for the moment of delay, so there was no chance for us to see more of the poor bereaved mother. "Telegraph to us at the next station," said one of the railroad functionaries to the guard. "Yes yes, be sure to do it," immediately, cried a dozen voices; for in some mysterious way the news of the accident had run through the train as if by electricity, and a long row of sympathizing faces watched from the cariage the disappearing form of the mother and the guard.

"It will take her half an hour to reach the spot, and it is just thirty five minutes now to the next station," said the stout gentlemon in the corner taking out his watch and holding it open in his hand, his eyes fixed upon it. He had struck me as one of the most selfish and disagreeable old gentle possible, scarcely answering a polite question from a neighbor, and then in the shortest and gruffest manner possible, he had seemed completely absorbed by his newspaper and his snuff-box, not having noticed the little fairy in any way except to glance at her now and then with a savage expression as her clear childish laugh had disturbed his reading. Now his whole soul seemed to be fixed on the watch before him, and he "chided the tardy flight of time" again in words more forcible than ornamental.

Now at last we are there; the train halts, and one of the guards ran quickly into the little office over which "Telegraph" is painted. Everybody who can possibly get his or her head out of the window on that side thrusts it out. There is a moment of intense suspense; here comes the guard again with a dispatch in his hand; he stands about midway between the ends of the train, and begins to read it out in his clear, loud, official tones: "Child perfectly sound; alighted on a pile of straw in a field, not two feet from a stone wall!"

Then what a scene! Every man at the train window has his hat off in a moment and is waving it and cheering as if he would split his thraot; every woman is buried in her pocket handkerchief, crying and laughing together. The old egotist and the vain young dandy have thrown their arms around each other, and are embracing with that hartiness that belong to the sons of the Vaterland, although they have never met before this morning. The stiff old maid has shaken my hands in both hers so many times I feel they are quite sore.

All the inhabitants of the little village come running around the train; "What is it? Where is he? Is it the Kaiser himself, or is it the Kronprinz? they ask in bewildered excitement at the sight of ours.

But all the Kaisers and Kronprinzes in Europe put together could not have aroused the flood of feeling that surged through that train. It was sympathy with a sentiment far older than loyalty—older than the Kings to whom loyalty is due—which was stirring every heart; it was sympathy with a mother's love!

* * *

[From the Staunton (Va.) Vindicator.]

George Washington.

THE VINDICATOR BIRTH DAY STORY FOR LITTLE BOYS.

Dear Boys—next Tuesday is the birth-day of George Washington. It is a very serious thing to be born children, much more serious then it is to die. I think it must make the angels sorry when they see a bad boy born. They can see a long way ahead and they can see all the trouble he is going to give his dear mother, and all the trouble he is going to give himself, and see all the trouble he is going to give God. And I have no doubt when they bring a little soul down upon their bright white wings and put it into the world, and know what it has got to go through they just get off in a corner of the room and have a hearty cry. It would make even a good person cry, and angels have much better hearts than the best of persons. You don't hear them or see them cry but the worst crying in the world, children, is that that you don't hear or see. The hottest tears that people ever shed are those that drop into their hearts. And it is a serious matter for more than the little boy, for often when the angels bring him down, they wait a little bit and take his mother back to Heaven with them. And children that makes the saddest thing in the world a motherless child.

A great many people are born that never wanted to be born, and when they grow up they can't get any satisfaction out of anybody for it. But for all that, the people in the world quarrel with 'em and are rough with 'em just as if they had come here on purpose. Sometimes little persons get so disgusted with the whole business that they go back almost directly, and then grown people cry over 'em and are very sorry but it's too late. The most time that a boy wishes he hadn't been born, is when his father tells him he'll come up and see him after he is in bed. There aint anything in the world that goes so slow as a boy does, when he undresses with a promise like that from his father. A snail goes very fast compared with him, and when he gets into bed I think he could hear a mouse on the steps, he is so anxious about his dear father's health. A girl wishes most that she had never been born, when she is dressed up for a pic-nic and it commences raining; or, when her grandfather dies just as they are going to have a party at their house; or, when they have a school commencement, and the dress-maker sends home a dress that don't fit. Do you know I have known even a grown girl to wish that, when her dress didn't fit.

The best thing that a person can do after he is born, and sees there is no help for it, is to make the best of it, and say nothing about it. Most of us, you will find, have to do that, though all don't. I have known babies to make an awful row about it, such a row that other people besides themselves wished they had never been born, and their fathers and mothers would be filled with the greatest remorse that they ever let them come.

When George Washington was born the first thing they knew about him was that he had a good deal of saleratus in him. Nobody can tell you what that is children but you will know it when you see it. When your Pa says you shan't do a thing and your Ma says you shall, and says, "I'd like to know if I am not to manage my own child," and your Pa just puts on his hat and gets out of the house easy, you may be certain that your Ma has got all the saleratus of the family. George commenced life by fighting the Indians—all boys that are going to turn out good for anything commence by fighting Indians, and those that turn out good for nothing commence by fighting Tigers, though you can't understand this yet—he bothered 'em so that though they shot at him ever so often they couldn't hit him. So much you see for having saleratus in you.

If there was one thing that George was fonder of than another it was telling the truth. I reckon you have heard that story, but, perhaps, you have heard it the wrong way, for a great many people write about the truth now-a-days that don't tell it. So I will tell you the true story. George was so fond of the truth, that even if he caught his own father in a story, it would fret him. So one day, after he grew up, he was out in the garden and saw where some one had cut down a tree. He asked his father, who came along, who did it, and the old man said a man named Smith did it. And George got a copy of the census table and looked at it, and found that no man named Smith had ever been born, much less cut down a tree, and he went back and larrupped the old man on the spot. So you see, a boy who loved the truth well enough to lick his own father for not telling it, was bound to be a great man. The story got mixed up a great deal by the neighbors, who were looking over the fence and wanted to make out like they knew all about it, but this is the only true version, and anybody who says it ain't won't be allowed to read the *Vindicator* any more, which is as good as killing them. They are so many unreliable papers now-a-days, that it is a streak of luck to get one that tells what you can rely on. If you expect to get along, boys, tell the truth. I never knew but one boy that got the worst of it. His mother suspected him of something he hadn't done and begged him to tell the truth about it. He stuck to it that he hadn't, and his mother thrashed him, but when she found out that he hadn't done it, she was so sorry, that there was no amount of cakes and preserves that he couldn't have had, if he would only have taken them. But he was a martyr, and martyrs don't eat cakes and preserves, and he wouldn't touch them. So he got so proud and stuck up at having been licked for nothing, and carried his head so high, and made the house so disagreeable that his father had to thrash him to get the extra saleratus out of him. The difference, boys, between your Ma thrashing you and your Pa doing it, is the same as between a breeze and a hurricane. What your Pa leaves of you, if Mr. Cushing was to put it up at auction, wouldn't hardly bring a cent. You might probably do like George Washington did, and wait till you are grown up and pay your Pa and Ma back, but the old folks are so cunning now-a-days, that they always manage to make it all right for themselves before their time comes around to be licked.

You will see, dear boys, that I have given you a very full and accurate account of the life of George Washington. His many virtues which I have noticed so fully, you will find worthy of imitation, and as to his vices, you must do as does the gentle tombstone, and pass them by in silence. He was the Father of His Country! Whether you will be the Father of yours, lies chiefly with yourself and the ballot-box, but chiefly with the latter. If you succeed, your salary will be $50,000 a year and perquisites; if you fail, you will land in the Missouri penitentiary. In either case the *Vindicator* will be furnished you regularly at $2 per annum—strictly in advance. Whiskey rings furnished at club rates.

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Look it Up.—Mr. Eggleston, in his book, "The Big Brother," says something so good that it ought to be passed around:

"It will not hurt you, boys and girls, to learn a little accurate geography, by looking up these places before going on with the story, and if I were your school-master, instead of your story-teller, I should stop here to advise you always to look on the map for every town, river, lake, mountain, or other geographical thing mentioned in any book or paper you read. I would advise you, too, if I were your school-master, to add up all the figures given in books and newspapers, to see if the writers have made any mistakes; and it is a good plan, too, to go at once to the dictionary when you meet a word you do not quite comprehend, or to the encyclopædia or history, or whatever else is handy, whenever you read about anything and would like to know more about it."

The German.

A "SOCIETY" DANCE ABOUT WHICH "OLD PEOPLE" HEAR SO MUCH, BUT KNOW SO TITTLE.

Some of the Washington *Star's* subscribers having asked for a definition of the "german," now so popular as a society dance, the paper proceeds to enlighten them, and as some of our readers may be in the same condition of blissful ignorance, we give its explanation:

A "german," or, as Europeans call it, a "cotillon," is danced by any number of couples, though twenty or thirty is considered preferable to a larger number, as each couple then has more frequent opportunity to enjoy the enticing waltz. A "leader," who directs all the manœuvres of the dance, is always chosen from the gentlemen who best understand how to conduct the figures in the manner most satisfactory to all concerned. He must select the figures and lead therein, as his official title denotes. He must give the signal for the music to begin and cease, and also for the dancers to begin and cease their evolutions. This last he does by clapping his hands, and it is expected that instant obedience shall be rendered him. The ball room where a german is to be danced is bountifully provided with chairs, which are distributed along the walls. The chairs are tied together in couples and numbered. The gentlemen who have engaged partners draw for seats, as there is an opportunity for much favoritism to be shown if the leader is allowed the right to choose the seats for all. No leader cares to do this; his other duties are too numerous and onerous to make any addition thereto desirable. All the couples being seated, and the hour for the german to begin having arrived, the leader signals the band and notifies a certain number of couples to come upon the floor. These, in turn, select others, the gentlemen selecting the ladies they most wish to join them, and the ladies inviting gentlemen from among those not on the floor at the time. The leader then marshals his forces and puts them through any figure he may select or invent. Sometimes he has a "hands all round," with the ladies in a ring in the centre and the gentlemen behind them, and at a given signal the figure which used to be known as the basket quadrille is formed. The ladies are then drawn up in line on one side of the room, and the gentlemen on the other, and when the leader signals the two lines advance, form in couples, and waltz until the leader claps the notification for all to be seated. He next calls upon the floor another set, and the figure is repeated. When all the couples have been in turn called out, the band is given a rest, and the dancers as well, and after an interval a new figure is begun. The "favors," of which so much is said when a german is mentioned, are pretty little ornaments designed in innumerable styles. Sometimes they are pretty little toys, again tiny silken flags, or diminutive bouquets, and sometimes imitations of the decorations bestowed by foreign governments upon distinguished men. Occasionally some pretty article of a lady's toilet is imitated. Toy fans, "dog-collars" of velvet, studded with gold or silver-gilt ornaments, *chatelaines*, and even bangles are often produced in the favors. Those usually seen, however, are rosettes of spangled tarletane and satin ribbon, with some ingenious and pretty device as a central ornament. When the leader calls couples upon the floor for a "favor figure" they at once proceed to the lady who is presiding over the entertainment and she distributes among the belles favors appropriate to be given to the beaux and *vice versa*. Then each lady selects a gentleman and pins a favor to the lappel of his coat, and each gentleman decorates with a favor the lady with whom he wishes to dance. The leader signals and all who have been thus decorated enjoy a waltz until notification to quit is given, that others may have their turn. The ladies who receive the greatest number of favors are, of course, considered the most popular belles. The favors may, therefore, be regarded as ballots cast for candidates for belleship. The young girls, of course, preserve their trophies as proofs of their triumphs. Many of them have adopted the custom of decorating their boudoirs with their favors. Some of the most popular of our belles have the walls of their private apartments covered with these glittering souvenirs of the pleasures of the winter.

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A man with a large family was complaining of the difficulty of supporting all of them. "But," said a friend, "you have sons big enough to earn something for you." "The difficulty is," said the man, "they are too big to work."

OLD COMMONWEALTH.

HARRISONBURG, VA.

C. H. VANDERFORD, Editor.

THURSDAY MORNING, FEB. 24, 1876

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Congress has made the 22nd of February a National holiday.

Mrs. Gen. D. H. Maury died in Richmond on Monday. Her remains were taken to Fredericksburg and interred.

Charlotte Cushman, the noted actress, died in Boston on Friday last, in the sixtieth year of her age. Her career has been a brilliant one.

Senator Gordon, of Georgia, has defined his financial position. He is not an inflationist nor a contractionist, but wants to resume specie payments gradually.

Mr. Storrs, Gen. Babcock's attorney, was taken with palpitation of the heart just as he was closing his argument on Saturday. Was it caused by obstemiousness of the truth?

If C. U. Williams' profanity and intemperance bill should become a law, would those who had paid their licenses commit sin by drinking and swearing? If so, would not the State be responsible for the sins?

Gen. Scheuck, chief authority on draw-poker, minister to England, &c., has resigned. It is probable, however, that before his resignation is accepted, his Emma Mine transactions will be investigated.

Is it not questionable whether the Legislature did not act hastily in expelling the colored member, Ruffin, for stealing another member's per diem? Were all the games of poker investigated, and all the balances adjusted?

The Berryville *Courier* announced last week that the ladies of that town would give a *handsome* supper the first day of the Circuit Court. We suppose the turkeys will be dressed in silks and satins, and the oysters, hams, &c., will be *handsomely* dressed also.

President Grant signed the centennial bill on Wednesday last with a pen made of a quill of an American eagle. He should have waited until Tuesday, Washington's birth-day, and the whole matter then would have been a genuine centennial performance.

The Senate of Virginia on Thursday last, by a vote of twenty-one to nineteen, declared Gen. Bradly T. Johnson entitled to his seat as a Senator from the Richmond District. Cochran, of Augusta, and Spitler, of Page and Shenandoah, voted against seating him.

Rumors of ruptures between Republican officials at Washington are numerous. Among them are those that Secretary Bristow and Postmaster Jewell will either resign or be replaced. The Republican party just now is a happy family. A dissolution seems imminent.

The House of Representatives have passed the fortification appropriation bill. It appropriates $315,000; last year it was $3,500,000. The Democratic House by this measure save the country over three millions of dollars. This is only a small part of the reforms they have inaugurated.

In consideration of the numerously signed petitions from business men in various parts of the Union, the lower House of Congress, last week, by a large majority, passed an act repealing the bankrupt law. It is thought that the bill will fail in the Senate. Should it pass, it will take effect on January 1st, 1877.

It is said that a Republican Senator is suspected of receiving a bribe in the Johnson-Knight contested election case. Before the vote was taken he favored sending the matter back to the people, but after a short talk with a Legislative broker, a change came o'er the spirit of his dreams.

E. D. Ruffin, colored member of the House of Delegates from Dinwiddie county, was expelled from the House on Saturday by a vote of ninety-eight to three. In drawing his per diem recently, he not only took his own pile of six dollars, put picked up thirty dollars belonging to another member. The committee to investigate the charge, and which unanimously reported in favor of his expulsion, was composed of three Republicans and two Conservatives.

The House of Delegates have voted to submit the constitutional amendments to the people *as a whole. This was an inexcusable blunder*, and will have the effect, we believe, to defeat them all. The desirable amendments will not be able to carry the others with them. No attempt should be made in this age of freedom to force an obnoxious law upon a people by means of coupling it with a number of desirable ones. Let the House reconsider its action.

Some time ago, General Henderson, assistant U. S. prosecuting attorney in the whiskey ring trials at St. Louis, was dismissed for questioning the authority of the President. Colonel Broadhead was appointed in his stead, and that gentleman, in opening the argument for the prosecution of Babcock, was even more pointed in his remarks concerning Grant than Henderson. It is a pity that the government cannot find an attorney of prominence who thinks Grant is above reproach.

THE LEGISLATURE.

The present session of the Legislature will expire on Tuesday next by limitation. There is a provision in the Constitution, however, which permits it to sit thirty days longer, if, in the wisdom of the members, they consider their services are needed, and like its predecessors it will vote for an extension of the session to the utmost limit permitted by that instrument.

Its cost to the State has been considerably over $100,000, and now let us sum up its doings. In addition to passing a few local bills, it has decided several contested election cases; spent about ten days in discussing the advisability of expelling the *Evening Journal* reporters, and about as much more in deciding not to appropriate $10,000 to the Centennial; expelled one member for stealing the per diem of another; investigated several members for playing draw poker; investigated a county judge for the same offence, and drawn their pay with astonishing regularity.

There are many good men in both branches of the Legislature, who, if left to manage its action, would have accomplished all that was needed, and adjourned before this. But between ignorant negroes and white buncombe orators nothing of special importance has been done.

The National Democratic Committee met in Washington on Tuesday, and appointed June 27th and St. Louis, as the time and place for holding the National Convention to nominate candidates for President and Vice-President.

The Tax Bill.

The following are the most noticeable changes proposed in the tax bill recently reported by the Finance Committee to the House of Delegates:

Section 5 abolishes the provision (which is inoperative) requiring poll-tax to be paid in money, and kept separate from general tax; changes the manner of assessing tax upon toll-bridges, turnpikes, and ferries—they are to be taxed upon their actual value, and not by an arbitrary standard, as heretofore.

Section 14 increases the tax upon deeds of trust and mortgages executed by railroad companies and others; heretofore the tax in no case exceeded $2,000; provides for an increase ratably with amount of deed, &c.

Section 19. Merchants pay a license tax for the privilege of transacting business in this State, to be graduated by the amount of purchases made by them during the period for which their licenses are granted, and places hucksters on the same footing as merchants; allows a merchant retiring from business to have his stock on hand assessed as purchases, and the tax to be proportioned according to the length of time the license has to run.

Section 16 makes the taxes for the current year a lien upon the rents in the hands of tenants, whether reserved in money or in kind.

Section 15 taxes all church property and church buildings of value in excess of $5,000. Imposes a tax upon all property belonging to counties, cities and towns not used for court-house, clerk's office, jail, or poor-house purposes; all real estate owned by Masonic, Odd-Fellows, and other like benevolent associations, whether the proceeds are devoted to charitable purposes or not.

Section 20 makes it the duty of the judge of the probate court to examine wills and inform the clerks what tax the estate derived under the same is liable to.

Section 44 imposes a tax on machinery and fixtures put upon real estate by persons other than the owner of said real estate as personal estate.

Section 56 makes it the duty of the courts to give grand juries special charges in relation to false returns of personal property listed for taxation.

Certificates for license to sell liquor by *retail* must be had from court of the county or corporation. Liquor merchants must report quantity of liquor sold twice a year—May and November, instead of four times a year, as heretofore. If the merchant fails to make his report he forfeits the license absolutely.

On a license to sell by retail the specific tax is made $100, which includes the privilege to sell by the drink. No license to be granted to sell liquor to be drank at the place of sale without retailing also. The tax of two and a half per cent. on sales is abolished.

Section 47. Real estate auctioneers are to be authorized to negotiate loans upon real estate upon the payment of an additional tax of $50. Stock brokers and private bankers, with a capital of over $30,000, pay an additional tax of $5 per $1,600 for the excess.

Section 62. Manufacturers of wine from grapes are exempted from tax, and manufacturers of brandy from fruits are exempted from tax to the amount of forty gallons.

The tax on ordinaries in the country and in towns of less than 2 000 inhabitants is to be $50; in cities and towns of over 2,000, $100; and eight per cent. additional on first thousand dollar's rent of place of business, five per cent. on second thousand, and three per cent. on all over two thousand.

Lectures and literary readings are to be exempt from taxation.

Barbers in the country and in towns of less than 2,000 inhabitants, $5, and $2 50 for each assistant; barbers in towns and cities of over 2,000 inhabitants, $10, and $5 for each assistant.

Taxes on lawyers raised to $15 for those who have been practicing five years; for other lawyers, $25; on physicians for less than five year's practice, $10; other physicians, $15.

Tax on livery stables $15 in the country and in towns of less than 2,000 inhabitants; elsewhere, $25, and an additional tax of fifty cents on each stall.

Tax on sales of horses, mules, sheep, cattle and hogs raised from $20 to $25.

HARRISONBURG, VA., Feb. 22, 1876.

C. H. Vanderford, Esq., Editor of the Commonwealth:—DEAR SIR:—In response to your enquiries as to the conclusions at which I have arrived in regard to the condition of affairs in the Valley of Virginia, in this, the Centennial year of our national existence, I desire to state as the result of my observations at various points which I have recently visited, in that famous and favored portion of the world, that I have found the people generally energetic, enterprising, industrious and economical; and that these qualities aided by their salubrious climate, productive lands, and excellent facilities for transporting the products of their soil to market, must have secured for them a high degree of prosperity, had they not been for several years past, as they now are, in common with the people of many other portions of the country, cruelly fettered by a currency so restricted in amount as to be altogether inadequate for the transaction of the ordinary business of life

No doubt, however, the wisdom of the nation will at no distant day find a remedy for this evil; and this barrier to the onward march of our people to prosperity and power will be removed. I do not propose to trouble you with any suggestions upon this subject; but wish to call your attention to two remarkable elements and sources of wealth in your vicinity, which although they have been either recently discovered, or have remained until now almost unnoticed, are yet destined, unless I am greatly mistaken, to exert an influence upon the wealth and prosperity of this region of country as potential and beneficial as did the gold of California and Australia upon those regions. I allude to the extensive and immense deposits of COAL and IRON ORE, now well known to exist in the DORA COAL FIELDS situated in North River Gap, about 19 miles from this place. I visited this tract on last Saturday, the 19th, and saw what I regarded as conclusive indications of almost inexhaustible supplies of coal and iron ore. The coal field is in the little North Mountain, and is divided by the North River. Eight openings had been made for coal: some of these were high up on the mountain side, and others were in the valley near the river,—but in all these openings seams of the finest Anthracite Coal have been discovered, varying in thickness from five to seven feet. The most distant openings are three miles apart. The specimens of coal which I saw at these places were abundant in quantity, and appeared to be of pure and excellent quality. According to an analysis by Dr. Chilton of New York the quality of this coal is unsurpassed, and it contains two per cent. more carbon than any Anthracite hitherto discovered.

In immediate proximity to the coal deposits IRON ORE has been found in large quantities and of fine quality, it being estimated that it will yield 50 per cent. of pure metallic iron. I am informed that an expert in the iron and coal business has stated that, owing to the proximity of the coal and iron in the Dora Coalfield, iron can be manufactured there for $7 per ton less than at any other place within his knowledge. It is important also to recollect that many of the openings in the different veins on this property being on the sides of hills, the mining can be conducted with comparatively little expense. Unlike the mines of Pennsylvania, the trouble and enormous cost of shafts and pumps are wholly avoided. It is believed that within the present year the Narrow Guage Railroad will be completed to the coal fields; and whenever that shall be accomplished there will be an unbroken railroad connection with tide water.

It can hardly be necessary to call the attention of capitalists to the various inducements which the rare combination of advantages at the Dora Coalfields offer for investments. Owing to the facility with which the coal can be obtained and its proximity to tide water, it is certain that it can be sold in the large cities at a lower rate than any other Anthracite Coal in the U. S. The coal alone, therefore, offers a source of almost boundless revenue.

The iron also, owing to the cheapness with which it can be manufactured and the facilities for transportation, may reasonably be expected to yield an immense profit. How very important these two interests are may to some extent be inferred from the fact, that it is universally conceded that Great Britain is indebted for much of her greatness to the abundance of coal and iron ore in large districts of the island. Judging the future of the Dora Coal fields by what has occurred at other localities not so richly endowed in coal and iron, as all outward appearances indicate them to be, the day cannot be distant when the mountains and valleys around will be crowded with laborers digging the coal from the mines, manufacturing iron, and loading both upon cars which will bear them to navigable water and the markets of the world. The capitalist will here find a highly remunerative investment for his money; the laborer ample reward for his toil; emigration will be attracted from all quarters; at no distant day a city will spring up as by magic in the wilderness, and this hitherto neglected and unknown tract of country, teeming with wealth and population, will greatly contribute alike to the commercial prosperity and political power of this State. Let us hope at least it *may be so!* It is among the great evils of our present condition that enterprising men, even in the Valley of Virginia, are leaving their homes, and seeking the improvement of their fortunes in distant lands.

Should our anticipations of the future of the Dora Coalfields be realized, we shall have here in our midst, in the full development of their rich mineral resources, an enterprise which will satisfy the most adventurous spirit, and yield a profit adequate to the demands of the most exacting. Then we may safely hope not only to be able to retain our own people at home, but to recruit our population by emigration from abroad, and no longer to have cause to exclaim in the spirit, if not in the very words, of Goldsmith:

> "Ill fares the land to hastening ills a prey,
> Where wealth accumulates and men decay;
> Princes and lords may flourish or may fade,—
> A breath can make them as a breath has made,
> But a bold peasantry, their country's pride,
> When once destroyed, can never be supplied."

OBSERVER.

(Correspondence of the Old Commonwealth.)

The State Debt Question.

RICHMOND, VA., Feb. 21st, 1876.

At a meeting of a respectable portion of the members of the General Assembly, in the Hall of the House of Delegates, on the 15th instant, Senator Spitler, of Page, was called to the Chair, who stated on taking his seat that he presumed the object of the meeting was to have a full and free consultation in regard to the financial condition of Virginia, and if possible to suggest some plan by which we can meet the issue presented, without imposing additional burdens upon the tax payers. If he was correct in his conclusions, then he was in full sympathy with the meeting.

Col Armstrong then stated that as he understood the object of the meeting, it was to seek a mode of relief—permanent relief—from oppressive taxation, in the efforts to carry the burdens imposed on us by unwise legislation and the decision of the Court of Appeals, perpetuating the receivability of coupons in payment of taxes; that we must adopt some plan by which to prevent the holders of these coupons from arresting and absorbing the revenue of the State in its transit from the tax payer to the State Treasurer; that we must equalize the payment of taxes and equalize the payment of interest on all classes of bonds; that with all due respect to that Court, the idea that the Legislature of 1871 could appropriate the revenue of the State thirty-four years hence, was too ridiculous for any sane man, and much less so for the highest Court of the State

Mr. Massie endorsed the position of Col. Armstrong, and spoke at some length.

Mr. Cecil was in favor of the most favorable terms to the tax payers that he could get.

Mr. Sibert agreed with Col. Armstrong in his theory, and had other views peculiar to himself as regards the judicious exercise of the power of this General Assembly to appropriate money for legitimate and commendable purposes when there is no money in the Treasury to pay with, nor will it be there at any future time, or as long hence as coupons are received in payment of taxes. That he was not here to find fault with his predecessors or with the courts, but took the financial condition of the State as he found it, and from the best information he could get, the obligations of the State as to her bonded debt only, are nearly thirty-six millions dollars in bonds, and nearly four millions of past due and unpaid interest, payable in cash. All this is exclusive of the one-third set aside until a settlement is had with West Virginia.

That the annual revenue was about $1,300,000 less than the liabilities, without including any appropriations that are, or may be deemed necessary. To meet this deficit, including commissions, &c., the rate of taxation would have to be doubled, or nearly so. Now, can the people pay this increase of taxation? We all agree that they cannot. Then what is our duty as representatives? He, in part, represented a constituency of about 24,000 in population and who were annually paying about $56,000 into the State Treasury, and as one of the representatives of such a people, he was willing to act in harmony with others to avert the catastrophe that seems to be inevitable, but not to increase the burden already imposed.

A LOOKER ON.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT JORDAN'S.—We learn with regret that the main Hotel Building at Jordan's Springs was entirely destroyed by fire on Tuesday night—the family barely escaping. Of course everything was consumed. The fire was first discovered on the roof of the kitchen and is supposed to have been caused by sparks from the chimney. The building was consumed in about an hour. The loss is estimated at from $20,000 to $25,000. It is thought that the insurance is $19,000 An effort will be made by means of a joint stock company to immediately rebuild. The building was a two story brick, about one hundred and fifty feet in length, and contained on the lower floor a large dining-room ball-room and offices. The upper contained over fifty chambers, furnished throughout.—*Charlestown (W Va.) Free Press.*

MARRIED.

Feb. 10, by Rev. Benjamin Miller, Joseph Clem and Mary Elizabeth Simmers.

Near Cross Keys, Feb. 13th, by Rev. Frederick Miller, George H. Baugher and Alice C. Hopkins.

Near Broadway, Feb. 10, by Rev. M. B. E. Cline, Isaac Eaylor and Annie Rhodes.

DIED.

In this town, on Sunday, Feb. 20th, 1876, Mrs. Harriet G. Effinger, in the 77th year of her age. She was one of our oldest citizens, and during the greater part of her long life was a member of the Presbyterian church.

Near Port Republic, on Saturday last, Ross Rippeto, aged about 60 years.

At his residence, near Pleasant Valley, on Sunday, February 20, 1876, Rev. Peter Shumaker.

LOOK! LOOK!

GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICES

BEST CALICOES 6 to 8 cents per yard;

LAUREL D COTTON 10 cents per yard;

FRUIT OF THE LOOM COTTON 12½c per yard.

SHAWLS AND BLANKETS AT COST

☞OTHER GOODS IN PROPORTION!

Call at once and see us.

LONG & HELLER.

ONE THOUSAND TONS PLASTER

ON HAND AND TO ARRIVE.

1,000 Tons Soft Blue Windsor Plaster,

which is now being ground, and can be furnished in any quantity to suit purchasers.

M. M. SIBERT

VALLEY PLASTER MILLS, NEAR B. & O. RAIL ROAD DEPOT.

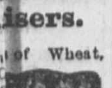
feb24-tf

ESTRAY STEER.

TAKEN UP by R. A. Scott, on his farm in Rockingham county, on the 24th of November, 1875, AN ESTRAY STEER. Said Steer is supposed to be three and a-half feet high, about two years old, red and white spotted; no brand; notch under left ear, crop off the top; slit near the middle, and notch under right ear. Appraised at $17.00. Copy.—Teste: J. T. LOGAN, Clerk.

feb24-4w*

Notice to Stock-Raisers.



I HAVE the STRAW from 2,300 bushels of Wheat, and desire to take some STOCK TO FEED. The stock will have access to the Straw at all times, and there is a stream of running water accessible.

feb24-3w JOHN BOWMAN, JR. Near Timberville, Va.

UPHOLSTERING, and MATTRESSES made any size on short notice. R. C. PAUL.

New Advertisements.

Public Sale

—OF—

VALUABLE PROPERTY

THE FACTORY PROPERTY, known as the H. L. M. & M. Co., will be offered AND SOLD at public sale, upon the premises,

On Saturday, March 11th, 1876.

This property consists of a two story building, 80 feet long by 53 feet in width; main building two stories high; being one of the most substantial buildings in the Valley of Virginia; adapted either for manufacturing or milling purposes. A never-failing supply of water to drive any power required by steam. A fine brick stack, 58 feet high; building in good repair. This building is situated on an acre and one-half of ground, having a Railroad front of over 600 feet.

This being a very desirable property, the attention of the public is called to this sale, as a rare bargain will doubtless be obtained. The property will be sold without reserve.

At the same time and place, there will be offered for sale,

Ten Building Lots,

fronting on Main Street and North Street. These lots are 60 feet front by over 200 feet deep. These are desirable building lots.

For fuller description of these lots and the property call at the Real Estate office of J. D. PRICE, Sibert building, and see plats.

Terms of sale will be easy, and made known on day of sale. Title perfect. Sale will commence at 12 o'clock, M., in front of the Court-House. For further particulars enquire of

J. D. PRICE, Real Estate Agent, or
G. W. BERLIN, Attorney-at Law,
Harrisonburg, Va.

feb24-ts

JOHN SIGLER AND GEORGE REHERD, Comp'ts.
vs.
Lemuel Stern and Rebecca, his wife, Jacob Fifer and Sally, his wife, Morgan Whisler and Lydia, his wife, John Baker and Susan, his wife, Noah Price, and the heirs of Polly Price, dec'd., whose names are unknown, and who are made defendants by the general description of parties unknown, Henry Showalter, Jacob A. Showalter and —— Showalter, infant child of Henry A. Showalter, Jeremiah Clemmens and Elizabeth, his wife, Adam Brock, and Wm. Brock,..................Defendants.

In Chancery in the Circuit Court of Rockingham Co.

Extract from decree rendered at January Term, 1876:

"The Court doth adjudge, order and decree that this cause be referred to a Commissioner, to ascertain and report how the proceeds of the sale should be disbursed, and four week's notice of the time and place of taking said accounts shall be deemed equivalent to personal service of notice to the parties interested."

To the parties to the above entitled cause and all others interested therein:

Take notice, that I have fixed upon Thursday, the 16th day of March, 1876, at my office in Harrisonburg, as the time and place of taking the account required by the decree, at which time and place you will attend and do what is necessary to protect your respective interests in the premises.

Given under my hand, as Commissioner in Chancery, this 22nd day of February, 1876.

PENDLETON BRYAN,
Comm'r in Chancery.

W. B. Compton, p q—feb24-4w

FARM FOR SALE.

IN pursuance of a decree rendered by the Circuit Court of Rockingham county, Va., on the 21st day of January, 1876, in the case of Adam P. Faught, &c., vs J. N. Faught, &c., I, as Commissioner in said cause, shall proceed to sell the farm, in the bill and proceedings in said cause mentioned,

On Saturday, 18th day of March, 1876,

at the front door of the Court-House in Harrisonburg, at public sale, to the highest bidder, for so much cash in hand as will pay the costs of suit and expenses of sale, and the balance in three equal annual payments, the purchaser to give bonds bearing interest from the day of sale, with approved security the title to be retained as ultimate security.

This is the farm upon which John L. Faught lived and died and is situated about 2½ miles Northeast of Keezeltown, and contains about 80 ACRES, of more than average land, with tolerably good buildings and other improvements, good orchard and good spring and running water.

G. W. BERLIN,
Commissioner.

feb24, 1876-ts

GARDEN SEEDS

FRESH AND GENUINE,

JUST RECEIVED.

GROWN BY

Briggs & Bro., and D. Landreth & Sons

FOR SALE AT

JAMES L. AVIS'

DRUG STORE.

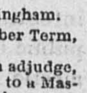
DRUGS,
MEDICINES,
PAINTS AND OILS,
DYE STUFFS, VARNISHES
SOAPS, PERFUMERY,
LUBRICATING,
OILS, &C.,

☞FOR SALE AT THE LOWEST PRICES.☜

—AT—

JAMES L. AVIS'S DRUG STORE,

HARRISONBURG, VA.



SPRING STYLE OF SILK HATS—Just out, and can be found at the Fashionable Hat store of D. M SWITZER & SON. fe24

P. ZELL & SONS,
vs
I. Frank Branner and Peter Rader,

In Chancery in the Circuit Court of Rockingham.

Extract from decree, rendered at September Term, 1875:—

"On consideration whereof, the Court doth adjudge, order and decree that this cause be referred to a Master Commissioner, with instructions to take an account of the fee simple and annual rental value of the real estate owned by the defendants, or either of them, the liens upon them and their order of priority, and any other account which any party may require."

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,
HARRISONBURG, VA., February 15, 1876.

The parties to the above entitled cause and all others interested or to be affected by the taking of the account required by the above decree, are hereby notified that I have fixed upon SATURDAY, THE 11TH DAY OF MARCH, 1876, at my office in Harrisonburg, Va., as the time and place of taking the said account, at which said time and place you will attend and do what is necessary to protect your respective interests in the premises.

Given under my hand as Commissioner in Chancery, this 15th day of February 1876.

feb17-4w PENDLETON BRYAN, C. C.
Roller, p. q.

STIEFF

Grand, Square & Upright PIANOS

Having received the highest encomiums wherever they have been introduced.

Made of the very best Materials throughout.

they are nevertheless offered at prices that will compare favorably with those of any first-class manufactory on this continent The best is always the cheapest, and hence purchasers of STIEFF Pianos will find a satisfactory equivalent for their money.

The *lasting* quality of their instruments is fully attested by the many Educational and other Institutions, in the Southern States especially, where over 400 are in daily use, and by the unanimous verdict of the best performers of this and other countries. Terms as favorable as is consistent with the times, and every instrument fully warranted for *five* years.

We are also Sole Agents for the Southern States of

The Matchless Burdett Organs,

which speak for themselves. A full supply of every style constantly in store, and sold on the most reasonable terms.

Fifty Second-hand Pianos always on hand, at prices ranging from $75 to $300.

For Illustrated Catalogue, address,

CHAS. M. STIEFF,
No. 9 North Liberty Street,
Baltimore, Md.

feb 3, 1875

REVERE HOUSE,
(FORMERLY EFFINGER HOUSE.)
HARRISONBURG, VA.

This House has been thoroughly repaired and furnished throughout with new and tasty furniture. Is conveniently located to the telegraph office, banks and other business houses.

The Table will always be supplied with the best the town and city markets afford. Attentive servants employed

The large and commodious stabling attached to this Hotel is under the management of Mr. H. GATES.

MRS. MARY C. LUPTON, Proprietress.
CHAS. E LUPTON, MANAGER.
J. R. LUPTON, } CLERKS.
G. B. STROTHER. }

*April 15 1y

I also keep on hand a stock of GROCERIES, GLASSWARE, QUEENSWARE, BOOTS and SHOES, PRODUCE, &c., &c.

R. C. PAUL,
East-Market St.

feb3

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE OLD RELIABLE LAND OFFICE!

J. D. PRICE,

HARRISONBURG, VA.

OFFICE: SIBERT BUILDING, Room, No. 1, second floor.

FOR SALE—Four valuable Building Lots, suitable for offices, in view of the Court-House, located on W. Market street. All who want good situations for offices had better call soon.

feb24 J. D PRICE, Real Estate Agent.

FOR SALE—**A Valuable Home,** containing 17 acres of good land with a new Frame Dwelling-House, containing eight rooms; well of fresh water at the door; good orchard; well fenced; situated on Swift Run Gap Road, one and one-half miles from Pleasant Depot Railroad. Will be sold for $1050, in good payments. The buildings are worth the money asked for the property.

feb24 J. D. PRICE, Real Estate Agent.

FOR SALE—**A House and Lot,** on West Market street, containing eight rooms fronting some 70 feet; has a store-room and office which will rent for enough to pay, with the dwelling, fifteen per cent. per annum. This is a bargain and all who want to make a good investment ought to call soon.

feb24 J. D. PRICE, Real Estate Agent.

FOR SALE—A VALUABLE FARM four miles west of Harrisonburg, near the town of Dayton, containing 220 acres of first quality of limestone land; has good frame dwelling with nine rooms; a new large bank barn, (the best in the Valley.) There is over five hundred apple trees of choice fruit, besides peaches, plums, &c.; a fountain of living water at the door, and Cook's Creek passes through this farm; it is divided into seven fields with good fencing. This is one of the best farms in this Valley, and will be sold cheap and on reasonable terms. Apply for particulars at the office of

J. D. PRICE,
dec 2 Real Estate Agent.

I HAVE FOUR VALUABLE LOTS

on Main street (north end), These lots are valuable, and will be sold cheap and on easy terms. Call on

J. D. PRICE,
sep30 Real Estate Agent, Harrisonburg, Va.

FOR SALE—**A Farm of 76 Acres** of choice Land; well watered by Pleasant Run; near the Pleasant Valley Depot, V. R. R., five miles South of Harrisonburg; good dwelling-house; bank barn; about 56 acres cleared land, and of good quality; about 20 acres in choice oak and hickory timber. This is a very good farm and cheap. Call at once and purchase a bargain.

J. D. PRICE,
Feb10. Real Estate Agent.

I have many Farms and Town Properties on hand for sale, which do not appear in this column. Parties wishing to purchase would do well to call and see me before making their purchase, as I am certain they will save money.

J. D. PRICE,
feb10 Real Estate Agent.

FOR SALE—**Valuable Farm of 300 Acres.** This is one of the most choice farms in Augusta county; 15 miles from county seat, and three miles from Cave Station on the Valley Railroad; quality of the land is limestone of the best quality; 50 acres of river bottom, balance rolling enough to carry off surplus water. BUILDINGS—The Mansion House is of brick with 9 rooms, (good as new); the Barn is the best in the county, also good out-buildings of all sorts needed on a first-class farm The fencing is first-class, over one-half being NEW plank and post fence. Close to good schools and churches; a fine spring of water at the house, and water in each field on the farm. There is also a fine, new MERCHANT MILL, with three run of burrs with all modern improvements; the Mill will grind 75 barrels of flour per day. There is also a PLASTER and SAW-MILL. The water-power is one of the best in the Valley; can use the whole of Middle River if wanted. There are 75 acres in choice timber. The clear land is in the most improved condition. The land will yield 25 to 30 bushels of wheat to the acre. This place is one of the most desirable farms in the Valley and will be sold cheap: one-third in hand, balance in six equal annual payments. If the purchaser desires to divide this land it could be divided in three tracts with buildings on each, or THE MILL and as much land as wanted, could be sold without injury to the balance of the farm. Call on

J. D. PRICE,
Feb. 10 Real Estate Agent.

FOR SALE—A valuable small FARM within one mile of Harrisonburg, and is one of the most lovely homes in the Valley, will be sold cheap and on good terms to the purchaser

J. D. PRICE,
oct 7 Real Estate Agent, Harrisonburg, Va.

FOR SALE—A nice little Farm of 75 Acres, six miles from county seat, on the waters of Muddy Creek; smooth land; good new dwelling-house; Barn, Corn-crib and Wagon shed, and other out-buildings; fencing in good repair; seven acres of Orchard of choice fruit; running water on the farm. Price $4000, in five payments. Good Title.

J. D. PRICE,
jan27 Real Estate Agent.

FOR SALE—20 acres of Woodland, located on the road leading from Harrisonburg to Cross-Keys. This is a cheap piece of property, and would make a nice small home. The timber on the land is worth what is asked for the land; Will be sold cheap and on good terms. Call soon on

J. D. PRICE,
jan27 Real Estate Agent.

EXECUTOR'S SALE.

AS EXECUTOR of David Kyle, sr., deceased, I will sell at public sale on the premises,

On Wednesday, 15th day of March, 1876,

that part of the Home Place willed to Wm. P. Kyle for life, situated on Mill Creek, in Rockingham county, adjoining the lands of E. S. Kemper, Reuben N. Harrison, Wm. Eiler, Archibald Huston and others, containing

476 ACRES.

The land is of good quality, and has on it one of the finest water powers in the Valley. A steady and unfailing stream, 28 feet fall in one place, and 200 yards below another fall of 24 feet, runs through the centre of the farm.

The buildings consist of a GOOD DWELLING, and necessary outbuildings, and upon the premises is A LARGE

Stone Mill House,

fifty feet square. There is a sufficiency of timber. The land will be sold as a whole, or divided to suit purchasers, upon the following

TERMS:—One-fourth cash; the balance in three equal annual payments with interest from date, purchasers to give bonds with approved personal security and the title retained as ultimate security.

H. KYLE, EXECUTOR,
feb3-4w h Bridgewater, Va.

Commissioner's Sale

PURSUANT to a Decree of the Circuit Court of Rockingham County, entered on the 2nd of Feb., 1876, in the Chancery case of J. T. Myers vs. C. Miller, Adm'r of John T. Myers, and others, in which the undersigned was appointed a Special Commissioner to make sale of the House and Lot in the Bill and proceedings in said cause mentioned, I will offer at public vendue, on the premises, in Mt. Crawford, in such parcels as will suit purchasers,

On Saturday, the 26th of Feb'y, 1876,

A HOUSE AND LOT OF LAND, situated in Mt. Crawford, Rockingham County, Va., on the East side of said town. The Lot contains FOUR ACRES (more or less) of fine land, and has a good BRICK HOUSE and all other necessary out-buildings, and good water in the yard, and a branch of water on one end of the Lot. Any one wishing to purchase a valuable little home in a first-class town, where good schools, churches, mills, stores, factories, and all other luxuries abound, cannot do better than to purchase this property.

TERMS OF SALE:—One third cash in hand; balance in six and twelve months from day of sale, with interest from sale, purchaser giving bonds with approved personal security, and a lien retained as ultimate security.

B. G. PATTERSON,
feb3tds Commissioner.

Commissioners' Sale of Land.

PURSUANT to a decree of the Circuit Court of Rockingham county rendered on the — day of January, 1876, in the cause of Reuben Huffman, &c., vs. Geo. S. T. Cupp and others, the undersigned, appointed commissioners for that purpose by said decree, will proceed to sell on the premises,

On Friday, the 3d day of March, 1876,

a tract of land, lying in Augusta county, adjoining John Rhubush and others, containing about

FORTY ACRES.

Also, ON SATURDAY, 4TH DAY OF MARCH, two lots of land lying in the county of Rockingham, adjoining Wm Sandy and others, one containing 4½ ACRES, the other containing 16 ACRES; also, one undivided ONE-THIRD of a lot of land lying in Mt. Crawford, containing two acres, belonging to the estate of Daniel Huffman, dec'd, upon the following

TERMS:—Enough in hand to pay costs of suit and sale; the balance in three equal annual payments with interest from the day of sale,—the purchasers giving bonds with good personal security and the title to be retained until all the purchase money shall be paid.

WM. T. CARPENTER,
JOS. A. EARMAN,
feb3-4w h Commissioners.

AT COST!

IN ORDER TO MAKE ROOM FOR A NEW STOCK OF SPRING CLOTHING, WE WILL SELL,

For a short time Only,

OUR STOCK OF WINTER CLOTHING AT COST

FOR CASH!

ESHMAN & ŒSTREICHER,
feb17 SPOTSWOOD HOTEL BUILDING.

BUSINESS CARDS.

A. H. WILSON,

Saddle and Harness Maker,

HARRISONBURG, VA.,

Would respectfully say to the public that he has sold out his LIVERY business, and can now devote all his time to the manufacture and sale of all articles in his line.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED!

No matter what others may tell you, who deal in second-class Northern-made goods, do not fail to call and see me before purchasing.

I keep on Hand and Ready For Sale

Ladies' and Gent's Saddles and Bridles, of all styles and prices; Martingales, Wagon Saddles, Farmers' Harness, Carriage and Buggy Harness, all complete; Cart Harness, Collars, Saddlery Trimmings, Blankets, Whips, Saddle Girths, Brushes, &c., and as to prices and quality of goods defy competition from any source. I warrant my work to last, and to be made of the best material. Call on me before purchasing.

☞Shop near the Lutheran Church, Main Street.

dec3-tf A. H. WILSON.

TO THE CITIZENS

OF

THE VALLEY.

HAVING removed to BERLINTOWN, NEAR BRIDGEWATER, I am prepared to offer to the public a full line of

Woolen Goods,

consisting of Cloths best of fine blue Cassimeres, Cassinettes, Blankets, Stocking yarn, &c., &c.; also a superior quality of Venetian Carpeting.

I am prepared to exchange for WOOL, at ruling market rates,

Carding, Spinning, Manufacturing of Goods

to order, at as low rates as any Mill in the Valley. Having for many years enjoyed a favorable reputation as a manufacturer, I feel prepared to guarantee perfect satisfaction.

Apr. 22-1875y THOS. P. MATTHEWS.

FLOUR! FLOUR! FLOUR!

Bridgewater Mills!

BRIDGEWATER, VA.

I AM making the best of FAMILY and EXTRA FLOUR, which I am selling at lowest market rates.

I am prepared to grind every man's wheat separately when so desired. I give shorts and bran mixed. The Mill is under the direction of

GEORGE W. WHITE,

who, during a successful management of eleven years, caused this Mill to enjoy a reputation second to none in the Valley.

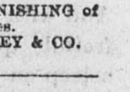
aug19-6m ISAAC MARSHALL.

The Harrisonburg Iron Foundry.

P. BRADLEY & CO.,

MANUFACTURERS OF

LIVINGSTON PLOWS



HILL-SIDE PLOWS, STRAW-CUTTERS, CANE MILLS, ROAD-SCRAPERS, Horse-Power and Thresher Repairs, Iron Kettles, Polished Wagon Boxes, Andirons, Circular Saw Mills, Corn and Plaster Crushers. Also, a superior article of

THIMBLE SKEINS,

and all kinds of Mill Gearing, &c. ☞FINISHING of every description, done promptly.

Harrisonburg, jan3-y P. BRADLEY & CO.

CLARY'S

Palace of Photography,

OVER OTT & SHUE'S DRUG STORE, MAIN ST., Harrisonburg, Va.

Pictures in all styles, from the oldest to the very latest.

Weston Burnished Pictures a Specialty.

☞Call at any time and you will be promptly waited upon. dec3-tf

J. D. PRICE,

DEALER IN

Coal and Iron Lands,

IN VIRGINIA AND WEST VIRGINIA,

ON THE LINE OF THE

Washington, Cincinnati & St. Louis R. R.

☞Address, J. D. PRICE,
may28-tf Lock Box D, Harrisonburg, Va.

ANDREW LEWIS,

DEALER IN

Watches, Clocks, Jewelry,

SILVER-WARE, PLATED-WARE and SPECTACLES,

KEEPS constantly on hand a large assortment of the above articles, which he respectfully asks the public to examine, as he is determined not to be undersold. ☞Watches, Clocks and Jewelry repaired in the best manner and warranted to give satisfaction. march25-y

JAMES A. HUTCHESON,

FASHIONABLE TAILOR.

ROOMS in Switzer's new Building, up stairs, opposite the office of the County Treasurer, where he will be pleased to serve the public. Satisfaction guaranteed! [july10-mar15-y

THE STANDARD OF THE WORLD
Over 300 Modifications.
TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF EVERY BUSINESS
FAIRBANKS & CO.
166 BALTIMORE ST BALTIMORE, MD.

Dec. 23, '75-tf

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY BONDS

FOR SALE.

I WISH TO SELL $8,500 ROCKINGHAM COUNTY BONDS, AT ONCE.

Address, JAMES B. RUSSEL, Trustee,
Feb. 10-3w Winchester, Va.

MANSION HOUSE HOTEL,
Northwest Corner Fayette and St. Paul Sts.
OPPOSITE BARNUM'S CITY HOTEL,
BALTIMORE, MD.

ISAAC ALBERTSON, PROPRIETOR

☞Terms $1.50 per Day.

MEDICAL CO-PARTNERSHIP.

DRS. WILLIAM WILLIAMS and J. H. NEFF have this day entered in to a co-partnership to practice of medicine. Dr. Williams, when not professionally engaged, can be found at his office over Jas L. Avis' drug store, and Dr. Neff at his office over L. H. Ott's drug store. Calls left at either place will be promptly attended to.

December 1st, 1875. dec8-tf

TAKE NOTICE!

I AM constantly receiving and adding to my stock FRESH DRUGS, MEDICINES, PAINTS, OILS, DYE-STUFFS, WINDOW GLASS, PUTTY, VARNISHES, and in fact everything kept in

A First-Class Drug Store,

all which will be sold as low as they can be bought in any other establishment in this place. In other words, I cannot be undersold. Respectfully,

jan27 L. H. OTT.

LAMPS, LANTERNS, AND CHIMNEYS. A full line of Lamps of all kinds, Lamp-Burners, Porcelain Shades, &c., &c. Chimneys of all kinds, just received and for sale by L. H. OTT'S Drug Store. nov11

FOR SALE.—Mackerel, Pickle Pork, Dried Apples, Potatoes, Coal Oil, Flour. R. B. GRAY. feb3

THE OLD COMMONWEALTH. PRICE $2.00 A YEAR. TRY IT.

OLD COMMONWEALTH.

Harrisonburg, Va., : : : Feb. 24, 1876.

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY BY
C. H. VANDERFORD.

☞Office over the Store of LONG & HELLER South of the Court-House.

Terms of Subscription :
TWO DOLLARS PER YEAR IN ADVANCE.

Advertising Rates:

1 square, (ten lines of this type,) one insertion,		$1.00
1 "	each subsequent insertion,	50
1 "	one year,	10.00
1 "	six months,	6.00

YEARLY ADVERTISEMENTS $10 for the first square and $5.00 fo each additional square per year.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS $1.00 a line per year. For five lines o less $5 per year.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS the legal fee of $5.00.

SPECIAL OF LOCAL NOTICES 15 cents per line.

Large advertisements taken upon contract.

All advertising bills due in advance. Yearly advertisers discontinuing before the close of the year, wil be charged transient rates.

Job Printing.

We are prepared to do Job Printing of all kinds at low rates, FOR CASH.

Time Table—Baltimore & Ohio Railroad.

MAIL TRAIN—EAST—Leaves Staunton 7:30 a. m, Harrisonburg 8:30 a. m. Arrives at Harper's Ferry 1:30 p. m., Washington 5:30 p. m., Baltimore 5:35 p. m. Returning, leave Baltimore 7;25 a. m., Washington 8:45 a. m. and arrives at Harrisonburg 4:35 p. m., Staunton 5:45 p. m.

HARRISONBURG ACCOMMODATION leaves Harrisonburg at 7:50 a. m.. connecting at Staunton with C. & O. train for Richmond, Lynchburg, &c. Returning, leaves Staunton at 4:35 p. m., arrives at Harrisonburg at 6:26 p. m.

LOCAL ACCOMMODATION—(Carrying Passengers)—Leaves Harper's Ferry 7.45 a. m.; arriving at Harrisonburg 4.15 p. m. Returning leaves Harrisonburg at 7 p. m., arriving at Harper's Ferry 2.50 A. M., and Baltimore 8.30 a. m.

☞SPECIAL NOTICE.—On Court days, for the accommodation of those attending Court, a special passenger train will leave Timberville at 7 o'clock in the morning for Harrisonburg.

C. A. SPRINKEL, AGENT.

LOCAL AFFAIRS.

Mr. J. P. O'Ferrall is an authorized agent for collection of accounts due the OLD COMMONWEALTH, and for soliciting subscriptions, job work and advertising. His receipt will be valid for any monies paid, and any contracts made by him will be carried out.

C. H. VANDERFORD.

J. FRANK LEWIS & Co., No. 30 Second Street, are our authorized Agents for the city of Baltimore.

'76! **OLD HUNDRED.** '76!

The Old Commonwealth,
(usual price $2 per year,) and
Louisville Weekly Courier-Journal,
(usual price $2 per year,)

Will be sent to any address for one year upon receipt of $3.00.

The COMMONWEALTH gives all the local news, a summary of General and State news, and much interesting and valuable reading to all classes of people, while the COURIER-JOURNAL is the best, wittiest, and brightest and ablest city weekly in the country.

☞Send $3 and try them one year.

Address, COMMONWEALTH, Harrisonburg, Va.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOL QUESTION.—On to-morrow night two week, March 10th a, meeting of the citizens of the town will be held at the Court House, to consider ways and means of providing Harrisonburg with suitable school buildings, and to arrange to keep the school in operation ten months. This meeting is called by the Common Council, and it is expected that State Superintendent of Public Instruction, W. H. Ruffner, Esq. will be present on the occasion. The advantages of good schools to a town are incalculable, and stand in importance next to that of church; in fact are auxillaries to churches, and as promoters of morality, stand next to the church. As intelligence spreads, immorality decreases. It is scarcely necessary to enumerate the advantages of good schools and good school buildings. They are known to all. Recognizing the fact, it now remains to be seen whether they will come forward and assist in providing them.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.—The Grand Lodge K. of P. of Virginia was in session in Richmond last week. From the reports it appears that three lodges were organized in the State las year, and on December 31st the total membership was 2,545. The subornioate lodges collected $18,826.37 and expended $18,413.65, thirty-three per cent. of which was used directly for relief of brethern.

The Grand Master of exchequer reported that there were $905.61 in the treasury. Dr. Wm. J. Points was appointed on a committee to prepare a memorial of the members of the Grand Lodge who had died during the last Pythian year. W. A. Slater was selected a member of the Standing Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

Officers were elected as follows: J. E. Rockwell, of Petersburg, Grand Chancellor; Vice-Grand Chancellor, W. H. Hall, of Norfolk; H. Latham, Prelate; H. C. G. Hartman, Grand Master of Exchequer; George L. Simpson was elected representative to the Supreme Lodge, which meets in Philadelphia next August.

TEMPERANCE DEMONSTRATION.—Washington's Birth-day—Tuesday—was celebrated in Harrisonburg by a temperance demonstration. The Jonadabs, Good Templars, and Juveniles of Harrisonburg, with delegations from various temperance orders in this and adjoining counties, headed by Prof. Clary's Brass band, paraded the principle streets in the morning, and in the afternoon a public meeting was held in the Court House. The Court House was filled to its utmost capacity, and speeches were made by Geo. O. Conrad, Esq. Maj. J. C. Walker and Dr. S. S. Roszell.

In the evening a Dashaway meeting was held at the same place, and the audience was entertained by speeches from a number of temperance orators.

RAWLEY SPRINGS.—Persons who have heretofore visited Rawley Springs, next summer will scarcely recognize the place. One of our correspondents two weeks ago gave quite a long account of the great improvements then under way and those contemplated, yet the transformation will be even greater than he described. The row of unsightly cottages has been removed, and the ground upon which they stood is being leveled and beautified. The narrow steps leading from the main hotel to the chalybeate spring, has been replaced by new wide ones, and the descent and ascent rendered less tiresome. The Spring itself has been removed, and next summer the water will flow from a fountain in a beautiful pavillion, a little lower down from its present position. The grounds, by means of a system of drainage upon the side of the mountain, have been rendered free from dampness, while the earth that sloped down almost to two of the hotlels has been removed, and the largest hotel, built at a cost of $20,000 last season, is to be handsomely painted: But, these are only a few of the many improvements at Rawley. We shall not attempt to now give our readers an account of the changes, but will defer until they are completed, Mr. A. Y. Lee, under whose supervision the work of improving and beautifying is being done, understands well what he has undertaken, and next season those most familiar with Rawley will scarcely recognize the place.

COUNTY COURT.—*Hon. C. T. O'Ferrall, presiding.*—T. H. Weaver qualified as Deputy Treasurer for Stonewall District.

John H. Bear qualified as Deputy Surveyor for A. C. Bear, Surveyor.

Will of Daniel Hensley admitted to probate.

Margaret E. Brill qualified as guardian of her infant children.

Chas. B. Lamb qualified as guardian of Ezekiel Lamb's infant children.

Barbara F. Brenneman executed new bond as guardian of Frances Brenneman.

John M. Garber qualified as guardian of the infant children of Martin Garber.

J. D. Price qualified as a Notary Public.

Rev. G. H. Snapp and Rev. A. P. Funkhouser, of the U. B. Church, executed bonds to celebrate the rites of matrimony.

The Grand Jury made but one indictment, viz: Commonwealth vs Martha Plaugher for murder, whereof she was arraigned and plead "not guilty."

MASSANETTA SPRINGS AS A MILITARY HOSPITAL.—As our readers are aware, Dr. Burke Chrisman has been endeavoring for some time past to get the government to purchase this property and covert it into a military hospital. Last week Senator Cameron of Pennsylvania presented a petition of officers of the army to the Senate, praying an investigation of the merits and qualities of the waters, with a view to the establishment of a military and marine hospital. If the government desires another hospital, an investigation of the waters and surroundings of Massanetta would be equivalent to a selection. The location is healthy, the waters for curative properties are unsurpassed, and no place in the country possesses greater advantages for a hospital than Massanetta Springs.

It is a remarkable fact that since the commencement of the Centennial year, a great many newspapers in various sections of the country have discovered men and women who are a hundred years old or more. While we have no doubt that most of these statements are imaginary, still we do not feel authorized to correct them. We will say, however, that John Shifflett of Rockingham, is *not* 106 years old, nor does he approximate that age.—*Register.*

We stated a short time ago that John Shifflett, living near the line of Rockingham and Albemarle was one hundred and six years old. The *Register* says, "we do not feel authorized to correct these statements, but that John Shifflett of Rockingham is not 106 years old." It has taken the *Register* a long time to make its calculations; however, we know nothing about the age of John Shifflett of Rockingham. The gentleman we referred to lives in Albemarle, and we can prove him as previously stated to be 106 years old, by documentary evidence. We never publish anything we can't substantiate.

STAMPING DEEDS, &C.—We call attention to the fact that the act of Congress permitting instruments to be stamped and cancelled in the presence of the Judges and Clerks of County Courts, expired by limitation on the 31st of December, 1875. Instruments now needing stamps, must be presented to the Collector of the U. S. Revenue, that they may be properly stamped, &c.

The South Carolina House of Representatives by an unanimous vote, has adopted the reprot of the committe to investigate the charge against Judge Montgomery Moses, and appointed a committee to prepare articles of impeachment. The charge is that he applied trust funds to his own use. Moses is a brother of Chief Justice Moses, and an uncle of ex-Gov. Moses, and has been on the circuit bench several years.

BREVITIES.

A few flakes of snow fell in this section yesterday morning.

Next Wednesday will be the first day of Ethereal Mildness.

Shenandoah county has eighty-five public and five private schools.

Tuesday was the 144th anniversary of the birth of George Washington.

The Staunton "Vindicator" had a very learned article last week on the "Arctomys Monax."

The Legislature, last Friday, re-elected John Greene Smith Judge of the Husting's Court of Staunton.

There were more people in town on Monday than there has been on any Court Day for some time past.

The grand jury on Monday indicted Martha Plaugher for murder. She will be tried at the March term.

Dr. Rives Tatum has been for a week past at his father's in Amelia county. He will be home again this week.

The various temperance organizations of Harrisonburg received numerous accessions to their ranks on Tuesday.

John W. F. Allemong, merchant of Bridgewater, in this county, sold 25,000 yards of calico in one day last week.

The "Leap Year" neck-tie, for gentlemen is the latest thing out. It consists of a young lady's sleeve with an arm in it.

Ashby Teachers' Institute will meet again on the third Saturday in March, instead of the first, as reported last week.

The weather on Sunday was bright and warm. The bees were busy among the trees, and their merry hum reminded one of Spring.

The Teachers' Institute for Rockingham county began its sessions in Bridgewater yesterday, and will continue until to morrow night.

We have received an original poem "Mutation," which will be inserted next week. We will be glad to hear from our contributor often.

Circuit Court adjourned over from Saturday until Wednesday. It will continue in session some days longer. It is now on its sixth week.

The Rescue Fire Company was out for practice on Tuesday, and succeeded in throwing water about fifteen feet higher than the Court House cupola.

The Jonadabs of Bridgewater will have a temperance demonstration to-night. Prof. Clary's Brass Band, of Harrisonburg, will furnish music on the occasion.

The wheat in this county is looking remarkably well. Should we not have winter weather when we ought to have spring, an abundant harvest may be anticipated.

The special train from Timberville to Harrisonburg on Court Days is a great convenience to the citizens along the road. Fifty-two persons came up on it on Monday.

Messrs. Rohr Brothers, we learn, will shortly open a hardware store in the old postoffice building, between the Presbyterian Church and Partlow & Lambert's store.

Edmund Pendleton, attorney for the Valley R. R., has notified subscribers to the capital stock, that payment in cash or by negotiable note must be made by the 14th of March next.

If we should have a backward Spring, as many predict, our farmers will be prepared for it. They have taken advantage of the mild weather to plow, and quite a number have all their ground broken.

"Champagne Charley" is a very pretty tune, but is not very appropriate for temperance parades. The band played it, however, on Tuesday, as the temperance procession paraded around the Court House.

It is an old superstition that in Leap Year after a lady counts one hundred grey horses, the first unmarried gentleman she shakes hands with she will wed. Can't some one bring a drove of them to town?

From a report by the Auditor of Public Accounts, the new assessment shows an increase of $143,970 in personal property in Rockingham county, and in the whole State the increase amounts to $1,320,655.

The Roadside Debating Society recently discussed whether or not Virginia should appropriate $10,000 to represent her at the Centennial, and decided that she ought. How would it do to substitute this Society for the Legislature?

Timberlake & Bell, of Staunton, have rented the store room in this town, formerly occupied by A. M. Effinger as a book store, and about the first of April will open a dry goods store. It will be under the management of Fayette Cole.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Letter from Port Republic.

PORT REPUBLIC, Feb. 21st, 1876.

Editor of Commonwealth: In our letter from Port Republic, of the 25th of January, we unintentionally made a wrong statement in regard to the inside painting, carpeting, &c., of the Methodist Church in this place, and also of the exhibition given during the holiday week. This entertainment was given under the auspices of some gentlemen, entirely disconnected with the Ladies' Aid Society of this place, and the proceeds, as stated, were not applied to the M. E. Church, but were used towards furthering an equally worthy object. The church has not been painted inside, nor carpeted, but the ladies are working as only woman can, to accomplish this end at the earliest day possible, and may their untiring efforts be rewarded.

I would say that I am solely responsible for the contents of my letter, having entirely misunderstood the statement given me. I make this explanation, in vindication of certain ladies of this town, against whom unjust accusations rest. My letter was written entirely from memory, and not as directed (as insinuated) by any party or person.

TRAVELER.

The grand jury of Richmond, Va., have indicted George S. Stephens, judge of the County Court of Nelson, and W. H. Fowle, member of the House of Delegates from Alexandria, for betting at faro and draw poker. John A. Worsham, a noted sportsman, was also indicted for exhibiting the game of faro.

The Mississippi House, by a vote of 101 to 4, have agreed to impeach State Superintendent of Education Cardoza. Nearly all the republicans voted for the impeachment. The House also adopted formal articles of impeachment against Lieut. Gov. Davis, colored, with only seven disenting votes.

BRIDGEWATER LOCALS.

PERSONAL.—We were extremely sorry to take leave of our friend, Mr. Wm. F. Bargelt, who has sojourned with us for the past three or four months, but now finds it to his interest to return to Woodstock. Billy is a genial gentleman, and closely endeared himself to many warm friends while among us. May his days on earth be many and pleasant, and may success attend him and "Bosting" through all their future lives. Come back to see us, Billy, and if this is not practicable, "write us a letter love."

STRONG APPEAL.—The following letter has been shown us by a valued friend, who is fond of and can fully appreciate the ludicrous. We give it entire, only suppressing names:

MR. ——, MY HONORED FATHER-IN-LAW EXPECTANTE:—Will you my dear sir, give your much coveted consent to the happy union of two loving hearts which, if kept seperate, will be destined to rob the the cheek of your eldest daughter of the delicate maiden blush that now tints it, and, perhaps, drive the author of this request into the vertex of the malestorm of destruction, through that gate of hell, where liquid damnation is doled out at ten cents a drink. An early reply to this request will be gratefully received.

YOURS FEARFULLY.

N. B.—Since writing the above, we have received the gratifying intelligence that the parents, together with the young lady in question, are in the enjoyment of complete health, but the young man has not been heard from, notwithstanding the most diligent search has been instituted The latest supposition is that he has visited the most sequestered spot in the neighborhood and there ——. Our friend on the right suggests that, perhaps, he has gone "where the woodbine twineth and the whangdoodle mourneth for her first born." "Sich" is life.

COLORED PERFORMANCE.—Two of our young "gemplem" of color gave an exhibition in front of the post-office, a few evenings since, but it did not seem fully to accord with the ordinances of town. The parties were escorted into the August presence of Mayor Altaffer, who proceeded to interview them.—Journ stated that Sam owed him twenty-five cents, and he "jist axed him for it, but Sam he say he know nuffin 'bout in; he done pay it, when I politely formed him he d—n liar, an' Sam he dunno how to take joke, and he jist place one he grabbers side my head. Sam he always was fool; nebber kin tell when folks is funnin wid him, specially when a gemman plies it to him. His honor being a gentleman somewhat advanced in years and not having become familiar with that kind of joking, failed to appreciate it in this instance, and caused each of the parties to contribute one dollar and costs to the treasury of the town, and admonished them to be more careful in the future how they joked.

LEAP YEAR PARTY.—The young ladies gave a party at the residence of Dr. Brown, on Monday evening last. They exercised the prerogative delegated to them from time immemorial by the year containing 366 days of escorting the gentlemen to the party. Woman is a curious but lovely creature. Beware, young gentlemen, how you disregard their addresses this Centennial Leap Year.

"Alas! the love of woman! it is known
To be a lovely and a fearful thing;
For all of theirs upon that die is thrown,
And if 'tis lost life hath no more to bring.

"To them but mockeries of the past alone.
And their revenge is as the tiger's spring,
Deadly, and quick, and crushing; yet as real
Fortune is theirs—what they inflict they feel."

Therefore, young gentlemen, accept their proffered hands and hearts, and once having them committed to your care, deal gently with them, prove true and constant.

"I hate inconstancy; I loathe, detest,
Abhor, condemn, abjure the mortal made
Of such quicksilver clay that in his breast,
No permanent foundation can be laid."

HOUSE BURNED.—The dwelling house of Mr. James Floyd, living on Mossy Creek, on the farm of Mr. David Garber, together with its entire contents, was consumed by fire on Sunday evening last. Mr. Floyd and family were absent at the time. The fire, it is thought, originated accidentally. This loss falls heavily on a most worthy young man, who can illy bear it, he having but recently commenced life as the head of a family with limited means. Oh! incomprehensible element, thou art a faithful servant, but a cruel master.

PARADE, &C.—The Jonadabs of this place, with many from various other lodges, will have a demonstration tonight (Thursday.) The programme will open with a torch light procession, headed by Prof. Clary's brass band, and will wind up by speeches, &c, at the Lutheran Church A large turnout is expected, and good results are anticipated.

There will be a temperance demonstration on Thursday evening, February 24th, consisting of a procession of the Sons of Jonadab of Harrisonburg, the Friends of Temperance, Sons of Temperance, and the Good Templars of Mt. Crawford and the Juvenile Templars and Sons of Jonadab of Bridgewater. After the procession there will be addresses made in the Lutheran Church by different speakers from the various temperance organizations. The following is the programme, so far as can be ascertained: Opening exercises—singing, prayer and singing; "Origin and progress of the Sons of Jonadab," Stuart F. Lindsey; "Why we take a Pledge of Total Abstinence FOR LIFE," J. D. Bucher; Music, "Farewell to Old Rye;" "Ladies Influence in the Temperance Cause," Geo. W. Jacobs; "Temperance," Rev. G. Mauzy; Music, "Friends of Freedom;" Speeches by the Visiting Brethren, interspersed with music; "Results of Intemperance," David L. Pool; Music, "Temperance Rally;" Closing remarks by H. W. Curry; Music, "Jonadabs' Greeting;" close with the Benediction. The Council took great pains to secure speakers from abroad, but up to the present time none have been secured.

If the weather is favorable a good turn out from the various orders is expected. *The three surviving Sons of Temperance of Bridgewater will march in the rear, headed by the* COLORED BAND!

The Emperor and Empress of Brazil leave Rio the 26th of March for the United States.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Roaming Around.

IN THE SADDLE, Feb. 19th, 1876.

Dear Old Commonwealth: We have roamed over the hills and valleys of old Rockingham, from the North Mountain to the Blue Ridge, from the whiskey stills of Augusta to the kraut tubs of Shenandoah, and now, like the prodigal son, we turn our face towards our father's house, with the full belief, that there is "no place like home." We have now been on the war-path about five weeks, and in that time, we have given you seven letters from different parts of the county. Now, that our labors in the field are about to end, and we are drawing near the haven of rest, we must condense the items of news which we have gathered within the past few days. Leaving Lacy Springs, where there is a public school of some importance, we continued our course down the Valley to New Market. About a mile and a-half this side of the town we noticed a number of graves, just inside of the field over which fresh dirt had been spread. They are the mute mountains of a few of Virginia's heroic sons, who, in the late bloody civil contest of right, yielded up their lives "*pro aris et facis.*" At the sight of them how many hoarded memories were summoned from their dim repose? How my bosom swelled with pride to know myself a Virginian, and that these sons of valor repose in the bosom of a State, that will ever nurture and cherish their memory.

"No marble marks their couch of lowly sleep,
But living statues are seen to weep.
Affection's semblance bends not o'er their tomb,
But affections self deplores their youthful doom."

Musing upon the sweetly, sad memories of by gone days, we rode on until the village of New Market was reached. Here we bivouaced for the night, and to pass the evening away, we went to hear Prof. Salyard's, of the Polytechnic Institute, lecture upon "Nature." The gentleman showed that he had given his subject no little thought, and handled it with a master's hand. We found the town much improved since our last visit; the place is in a considerable excitement over two seven-day adventist preachers.

Leaving New Market we went to Timberville, thence via Broadway to Cowans and Linville Stations, on the B. & O. R. R. We found nothing of interest on this route, except the fine crops of wheat to be seen on every hand, showed no accident befell our farmers in the Spring. Their wheat crop will be the largest raised for several years. The cross roads, throughout the county, are in a dreadful condition, and in some places, almost impassable. We have really no news to write you. There is a painful stillness resting upon every banch of business; money scarce, and a general complaint of hard times. May the gods of fortune be with you and yours; may your brightest hopes be realized; may the COMMONWEALTH long live the mouthpiece of Democracy and the watch dog of the people's rights. Van. farewell, and if forever, "still forever, fare thee well." If we meet no more on earth let us "turkey in" up there, where the wicked cease from troubling and all printers are at rest.

TRAVELER.

(Correspondence of the Commonwealth.)

A Visit to Harmony.

The above-named place is situated one and a-quarter miles south of Dayton, and is the name of the school-house at which your reporter spent a most enjoyable day. The last day of school here is as notable as "Franshaw's funeral" in one of the mining cities in the far West.

At an early hour crowds of children, all dressed in their Sunday best, with a father or big brother carrying the basket which held no inconsiderable part of the day's programme, could be seen coming from all directions.

The neat appearance of the school-house and the mannerly actions of the pupils showed that the teacher (Mr. Chas. E. Funk) had not been unmindful of his duties during the term—a fact afterward confirmed upon hearing the rigid examination and creditable review exercises of the pupils. After the opening exercises, which consisted of reading and prayer, with a few appropriate remarks by the teacher, the forenoon was chiefly spent in reviews and examinations in reading, arithmetic, geography and grammar, after which the school was adjourned for dinner.

Having recuperated our alimentary cavity with the regimen of one of the bountiful baskets, we were invited to participate in a social game of ball with the boys. At one and a-half P. M. we were summoned, by the ringing of the bell, to assemble again within the school house.

The following is a programme of the afternoon's exercises:

Declamations—By Jakie Shank, Eddie Garber and M. Hedrick.

Dialogue—By J. Hale and M. Wenger.

Recitations—By Eddie Wright, Chas. Shiflet and John Wenger.

Declamation—By Miss Lizzie Pence, followed by Speech by Wm. Kraicofe.

Dialogue—By D. Early and Joel Miller.

Declamation—By Miss Ada Byrd.

Composition—By Lee Byrd.

Recitation—By Miss Sophia Ritchie, followed by a Declamation by Jacob Hale.

Dialogue—By Misses M. Early, F. Wright, M. Flory and L Pence.

"*Crabb Village Lyceum*"—C. E. Funk, Joel Miller, J. Flory, D. Early, G. Michael, Sol. Wenger, J. Garber, N. Karicofe, Lee Byrd, Jacob Miller, Gabe Karicofe and Sol. Flory.

Dialogue—By Misses A. Byrd, M. Miller, M. Suter and Mary Early.

Declamation—By Ed. Snell.

Dialogue—By G. Michael and H. Ritchie.

Declamations—By Mollie Kiger; also by Fannie Garber.

Dialogue—By Joel Miller and Chas. Shank.

Recitation—By Chas. Byrd.

Dialogue—By Jakie Karicofe and G. Michael.

Declamation—By Laura Shank.

"*Military Drill*"—By Miss Ada Byrd and Mr John Flory.

Valedictory—Written by Messrs. D. Early and J. Miller; read by Mr. Dan. Early.

So we returned much happier.

Yours, IMPROMPTU.

BRIDGEWATER, VA., Feb. 22, '76.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Letter from Waverlie.

WAVERLIE, VA., Feb. 22, 1876.

Editor Commonwealth:

Another week has swiftly passed away, and we find in its catalogue of events but few incidents worthy of communication. As a token of the revival of the recent dormant spirit of enterprise in this community, there were several boat-loads of lumber sent to market upon the breast of the beautiful Shenandoah last week. There has, also, been quite an improvement made on the M. E. Church, South, one mile north of this place. There has been a defect in its roof for several years, allowing the rain to penetrate into the ceiling, and thus having a detrimental effect upon the plastering. Last week several gentlemen, with Mr. J. P. H at their head, resolved to remedy this defect by tearing the old roof off and placing a new one in its stead, and in a few days the work was accomplished. Thus we see the effect of a firm resolve, and a confirmation of the proverb, "We can do whatever we will to do."

The Randolph Literary Society convened at Shenandoah Iron Works last Thursday night, and after a spirited discussion of about three hours, on the following subject, to wit—Resolved, "That a warrior is more beneficial to a country than a statesman"—the decision was given in favor of the negative. Mr. B. Milnes, a talented young man of Page, and a conspicuous member of the Randolph Literary Society, will leave home next week for the University of Virginia. From the prominent position Mr. Milnes held in this Society, and the active part he took in all its discussions, we feel no hesitancy in saying that his removal from this community will be regretted and lamented not only by his fellow-members of the Society, but also by every one who has had the exquisite pleasure of listening to his lofty flights of oratory which he so eloquently and gracefully displayed. We sincerely hope his career at the University may be peaceably and pleasurably spent, and when he leaves for entering upon life's rugged stream, we hope he may be able to surmount all difficulties with which he may come in contact, and finally reach that pinnacle in literary fame to which his talents and rare genius justly entitle him.

More anon, IOTA.

Tribute of Respect.

A meeting of the "Ladies' Aid Society" of Port Republic was held February 10th, 1876, for the purpose of paying tribute of respect to the memory of our late President, Mrs. Huldah Heiskel.

The following ladies were appointed a committee to report suitable resolutions expressive of our loss as a lady: Miss Lizzie Weaver, Miss Annie Scott and Miss Sallie Arbogast, who submitted the following;

WHEREAS, It has pleased Almighty God to remove from us our much endeared sister and late President, Mrs. Huldah Heiskel, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That our Society has lost one of its most useful, amiable and kind members, and our community one of its very best citizens—beloved and respected by all—and that while we mourn our loss, we bow in humble submission to the will of Him who is too wise to err, and too good to be unkind, and that we are comforted with the assurance that our loss is her eternal gain.

RESOLVED, That these resolutions be published in the COMMONWEALTH, and a copy be furnished the family of the deceased, with whom we share our heart-felt sympathies in this their bereavement.

MRS. LUCIE HOLBROOK, Ch'm'n Com.
JOSIE M MAUPIN, Secretary.

The majority of the Louisiana House committee of investigation reports that the State treasury has been tampered with by Gov. Kellogg and other State officers, who handled the treasurer, Dubuclet, to suit their purposes, and recomend that Kellogg and the treasurer be impeached, Assistant Attorney General Dibble be addressed out of office, and criminal proceedings be instituted against Alfred Shaw, attorney for the police board, and J H. Oglesby, fiscal agent, as *particeps criminis.*

A dispatch from Omaha says it is stated on official authority that the Sioux, Cheyenne and Arapahoe Indians are making extensive preparations for an outbreak in a very few weeks.—They have been purchasing large quantities of amunition and arms wherever they could get them.

COMMERCIAL.

HARRISONBURG MARKET.
CORRECTED WEEKLY BY LONG & HELLER.
THURSDAY MORNING, February 24, 1876.

Flour—Family,	$6 00@6 00
Do Extra,	5 00@5 25
Do Super,	4 00@4 25
Wheat,	1 00@1 10
Rye,	0 60@0 60
Corn, (new)	0 00@0 50
Oats, (new)	0 35@0 40
Corn Meal,	0 50@0 60
Bacon,	0 10½@11
Pork	0 00@7 00
Flaxseed,	0 00@1 00
Salt, ⅌ sack,	0 00@2 50
Hay,	00 00@12 00
Lard,	0 00@12½
Butter, (good fresh)	0 20@0 20
Eggs,	0 00@12½
Potatoes, new	0 00@0 40
Wool, (unwashed)	0 00@0 30
Do (washed)	0 00@0 40

CATTLE MARKETS.

BALTIMORE, February 17, 1876.

PRICES.

Best Beeves	$5 87 a 6 50
Generally rated first quality	4 75 a 5 75
Medium or good fair quality	4 00 a 4 50
Ordinary thin Steers, Oxen and Cows	3 00 a 3 50
General average of the market	4 50
Extreme range of Prices	3 00 a 6 50
Most of the sales were from	4 00 a 5 00

RECEIPTS.

Beeves	1,258
Sheep and Lambs	1,568
Hogs	4,491

Sheep—Sales at 4¾a7c per lb gross. Supply light, but ample for the demand.

Hogs—A little more activity in the market and a firmer tone prevailing than last week. We quote at $10a10.75, and a few extra at $11 per 100 lbs net.

ALEXANDRIA, VA., Feb. 18.—Market active. Cattle—Sales at 4a6½c per lb; Calves 6a7c per lb; Sheep—sales at 5a7c per lb. Hogs 9½a10½c and active. Cows and Calves 25a$50, with but few offering.

GEORGETOWN, Feb. 17.—Sales of Beef Cattle at 3a6½ cents per lb. 480 Sheep were received, nearly all of which were sold at 5a6½c per pound. Cows and Calves 20a$50, with but few offering.

CHAS. R. GIBBS,
FASHIONABLE BOOT and SHOE-MAKER,
EBUILDING, MAIN STREET,
OPPOSITE HACKLETT'S CORNER,
HARRISONBURG, VA.

THE very best of work at the lowest living prices. No competition with any. Equalled by few—inferior to none. Call and see some of our superb work. Public patronage solicited. Don't forget where.
sept16 y

BALTIMORE ADVERTISEMENTS

EVERYBODY
INVITED TO CALL AND EXAMINE!
THE LARGEST AND FINEST STOCK OF
Gent's & Boys' Clothing,
EVER OFFERED IN BALTIMORE.
Goods Retailed at Wholesale
PRICES!
—N-E-W-Y-O-R-K—
One Price Cash Clothing House,
184 W. Baltimore St.,
BALTIMORE, MD.
BRANCH OF
ROGERS, PEET & CO.,
487 Broadway, New York.
Manufacturers Wholesalers and Retailers
—OF—
FINE CLOTHING.
july29

EMIL FISHER,
CHEMICAL SCOURER,
(The original importer of this industry.)
ALSO AGENT
For the NEW YORK DYEING ESTABLISHMENT,
130 West Fayette Street,
BALTIMORE, MD.

Would call the attention of his customers to the fact that it would be greatly to their advantage to bring their Dyeing TWO WEEKS BEFORE NEEDED, as it is done in New York, and takes that length of time. Goods are forwarded three times a week, and will be promptly returned. Also, every article of wearing apparel CLEANSED in the very best manner, and at the shortest notice.

It has been for the last twenty-one years, and will always be, my aim to give perfect and entire satisfaction to all.

☞Parties residing at a distance from the city can forward their goods by express, and have them returned in the same way. april 29-y

ST. CLAIR HOTEL,
W. H. CLABAUGH, Proprietor,
MONUMENT SQUARE,
Baltimore, Md.
UPTON W. DORSEY, Chief Clerk. apl8-y

S. F. SANGER & CO.
GENERAL DEALERS IN
Hardware, Agricultural Implements, &c.,
BRIDGEWATER, VA.

WE desire to inform the public that we are engaged in the HARDWARE & AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT BUSINESS, and having just received a complete assortment of goods in our line, we are now prepared to furnish any article kept in our branch of business as low as can be bought from any other house in the Valley. We have paid close attention to the wants of our people in the selection and purchase of goods.

OUR STOCK CONSISTS IN PART OF

Iron, Steel, Nails, Horse Shoes, Horse-Shoe Nails, Blacksmith Supplies, Stone Coal, Building Materials, Carpenters' Tools, Grindstones, Shickel's Plows and Castings Danner & Newman's Plows and Corn Shellers, Saddlery and Shoe Findings, Cucumber Wood Pumps, Hollow and Woodenware, Table and Pocket Cutlery Waldron Grain and Grass Scythes, Farm Bells, Iron and Brass Kettles.

WE HAVE ALSO ON HAND A VARIETY OF

Cooking & Heating Stoves,

of Baltimore and Richmond manufacture. We can furnish the best Cooking Stove in use, with from sixteen to fifty-two pieces of ware, ranging in price from twenty to forty dollars. We make these Stoves a specialty, and guarantee satisfaction, and claim to furnish them as low as they can be bought from any other House. Any article embraced in our line and not on hand will be furnished at the shortest notice.

We have employed a number one TINNER to carry on the TINNING BUSINESS in connection with our house, and are prepared to do anything in that line. We are also agents for Stover's Automatic Wind Engine.

In connection with our Hardware, Mr. Sanger keeps a full assortment of

Drugs, Paints, Oils, Dye-Stuffs,

Glass, Putty, Varnishes, &c. In fact we are prepared to furnish our patrons with anything they want from a cathartic pill to a team engine.

We respectfully solicit a call from the public before purchasing elsewhere.

Feb. 17 1876 III S. F. SANGER & CO.

1856. ESTABLISHED **1856.**

BEST QUALITY! AND LOW PRICES.

LUTHER H. OTT,
DRUGGIST!
NEW LARGE DRUG BUILDING, MAIN ST.,
HARRISONBURG, VA.

RESPECTFULLY informs the public, and especially the Medical profession, that he has in store, and is constantly receiving large additions to his superior stock of

DRUGS, MEDICINES, CHEMICALS,
PATENT MEDICINES,
White Lead, Painters' Colors, Oils for Painting,
LUBRICATING AND TANNERS' OILS,
VARNISHES, DYES, PUTTY, SPICES,
WINDOW GLASS,
Notions, Fancy Articles &c., &c.

I offer for sale a large and well selected assortment embracing a varied stock, all warranted of the best quality.

I am prepared to furnish physicians and others with articles in my line at as reasonable rates as any other establishment in the Valley.

Special attention paid to the compounding of Physicians' Prescriptions.

Public patronage respectfully solicited.

oct7 L. H. OTT.

LAGER BEER.
CALL AND SEE ME.

I DESIRE to inform the lovers of the "Bully Lager Beer," that I have obtained license and opened a LAGER BEER SALOON, in the new building near the Depot, where I keep constantly

FRESH BEER

of the best brands. I also furnish Luncheon and Lodging to those who desire it. My place is at the end of the plank walk leading to the Depot, and the walk to it is a delightful one. My saloon is neatly fitted up, and a pleasant place to sit, chat, and partake of the palatable and harmless beverage.

feb10-lm JONAS HELLER.

LONG & HELLER
Make a specialty of
GROCERIES
[illegible] to those buying in large quantities. Call and see. nov18

100 SACKS FINE SALT;
All grades of Sugar and Coffee;
Syrups, Molasses,
Rice, Macaroni,
Cheese, Crackers, Teas and Spices,
For sale by
Feb17 HENRY SHACKLETT.

CALL and leave your measure with D. M. SWITZER & SON, if you want a perfect-fitting Dress Shirt. Satisfaction guaranteed.

WHITE LEAD, Linseed Oil, Varnishes of all kinds, Window Glass, and Painters' Colors, for sale at (nov11) L. H. OTT'S Drug Store.

A Candidate for Office.

When I walked down the street next day the preception of my new relations with the public surprised me like the shock of a gelid bath. Instead of the cold and somewhat shy deference habitually accorded to independent position and reserved manners, I was everywhere accosted with an easy and aggressive familiarity. My right hand was crushed with the cordiality of fellows whose names were unknown to me, and my ribs ached with the friendly pokes of people whose former acquaintance had never transcended a distant nod. Tom introduced me to his neighbor Dick, and Dick presented his friend Harry, and Harry called up the fellow-citizens Ragtag and Bobtail, and everybody wanted to know my opinion on every imaginable subject—grangers, railroads, local option, free schools, Cuba, the next Presidency, and what not.

I was seriously embarrassed at finding myself for the first time face to face with a constituency, but was humanely relieved by Bully M'Cue, who stepped up and whispered in my ear, confidentially, "You can answer all them questions most satisfactory in one word—treat!"

'A friend in need is a friend indeed,' and by authority my committee man led the constituency into the next grocery. Then I was followed by a bevy of little girls collecting for the Mite Society, who pertly demanded a dollar from the candidate. Reflecting that little girls have fathers who are voters, I called up a sweet blushing maiden who was modestly hanging back, and gave her the dollar with a pat on the head and a compliment added. This was observed, and at the corner I was boned by the maiden aunt of one of the little girls for a contribution to the heathen. Certainly. I profoundly pity the heathen, especially those whose lot is cast in our borders.

I escaped into a friendly store; but there the proprietor spread his stock of silks on the counter, insisting I should select a dress for madam to wear at the capitol next winter. Only sixty-five dollars the pattern. I declined: hadn't the money. "Very proud to have your name on our books," said he, bundling up the dress and sending it off by a boy without my daring to object.

I was next obliged to buy a raw-boned, spavined, wind-broken horse to electioneer on, because a warm friend and voter insisted on it. A burly fellow claimed two dollars of me for a load of worm eaten pine wood he had thrown off at my door without saying, 'By your leave,' and although he knew that I peculiarly despised that kind of fuel.

Hastening homeward I was waylaid by a disagreeable, peak-nosed elder who had seceded from the Methodist society, and was trying to get up an opposition meeting-house to divide our poor little community. Knowing how I contemn him and his enterprise, he now asserts his advantage, and thrusts his greasy subscription paper under my nose, with the remark that candidates for public favors are expected to be liberal.

I fork over twenty dollars with a groan. Yesterday I was impressed with the belief that the public, through its committee, was soliciting a favor from me; to-day the boot seems to be on the other leg.—*P. C. in Harper's Magazine.*

Dull Great Men.

Descartes, the famous mathematician and philosopher; La Fontaine, celebrated for his witty fables, and Buffon, the naturalist, were all singularly deficient in the powers of conversation. Mormantel, the novelist, was so dull in society that his friend said of him, after the interview, I must go and read his tales, in recompense to myself for the weariness of hearing him. As to Corneille, the greater dramatist of France, he was completely lost in society—so absent and embarrassed that he wrote of himself a witty couplet, importing that he was never intelligible but through the mouth of another. Wit on paper seems to be something widely different from that play of words in conversation which, while it sparkles dies; for Charles II., the wittiest of monarchs, was so charmed with the humor of "Hudibras" that he caused himself to be introduced in the character of a private gentleman to Butler, its author. The witty king found the author a very dull companion, and was of opinion, with many others, that so stupid a fellow could never have written so clever a book. Addison, whose classic elegance has long been considered the model style, was shy and absent in society, preserving even before a single stranger formal and dignified silence. In conversation Dante was taciturn and satirical. Gray and Alfieri seldom talked or smiled. Rousseau was remarkably tame in conversation, without a word of fancy or eloquence in his speech. Milton was unsocial and sarcastic when much pressed by strangers.

A CHOICE LOT of Toilet Soaps, in great variety and at popular prices, at OTT'S Drug Store.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

JAMES KENNEY,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, HARRISONBURG, VA.
ap30-vz

ROBERT B. RAGAN,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, HARRISONBURG, VA. Office in the old County Clerk's Office in the Court-House yard. dec19 y

F. A. DAINGERFIELD,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, HARRISONBURG, VA. ☞Office South side of the Public Square, in Switzer's new building. jan10-y

CHAS. A. YANCEY. ED. S. CONRAD.
YANCEY & CONRAD,
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW AND INSURANCE AGENTS, HARRISONBURG, VA. ☞Office—New Law Building, West Market street. jan14-y

LIGGETT & LURTY,
PRACTICE LAW in all the Courts, Inferior, Appellate and Federal, HARRISONBURG, VA. ☞Office on West-Market street, nearly opposite Loewenbach's Store. jan23.

EDWIN B. HAY,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, CLAIM AND COLLECTION AGENT, 321 *Four-and-a-half Street, Washington, D. C.* Special attention given to claims before the departments, also to patent law. july1-tf*

JOHN PAUL,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, HARRISONBURG, VA., will practice in the Courts of Rockingham and adjoining Counties, and in the United States Courts at Harrisonburg. ☞Office in the old Clerk's Office, in the Court-House yard.

JOHN E. ROLLER,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, HARRISONBURG, VA.—Courts: Rockingham, Shenandoah and Augusta. Being now out of public life, proposes to devote his whole time to his profession. Correspondence and business will receive prompt attention.

J. SAM'L HARNSBERGER,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, HARRISONBURG, VA., will practice in all the Courts of Rockingham county, the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia, and the District and Circuit Courts of the United States holden at Harrisonburg. feb27-y

CHAS. T. O'FERRALL,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, HARRISONBURG, VA., practices in all the Courts of Rockingham, the Federal Courts at Harrisonburg, and the Courts of Appeals at Staunton and Winchester. ☞Office in "Sibert" Building," up stairs.

WM. B. COMPTON,
(LATE OF WOODSON & COMPTON,) will continue the Practice of Law in the Courts of Rockingham; the Court of Appeals of Virginia, and Courts of the United States.
Business in the hands of the late firm will be attended to as usual by the surviving partner. [se9-I

G. W. BERLIN,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, HARRISONBURG, VA., will practice in the Courts of Rockingham and adjoining counties and the United States Courts held at this place. ☞Office in Switzer's new building on the Public Square. mar12

CHAS. E. HAAS. B. G. PATTERSON.
HAAS & PATTERSON,
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW, HARRISONBURG, VA. Will practice in all the Courts held in Rockingham county, and are prepared at all times to file petitions in Bankruptcy. Prompt attention given to collections. Office in southeast corner of Court-House Square. jan24

RO. JOHNSON,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, HARRISONBURG, VA., practices in the Courts of Rockingham and Shenandoah, and in the Circuit and District Courts of the United States held at Harrisonburg, Va., and the Supreme Court of Appeals held at Staunton, Va.

PENDLETON BRYAN,
COMMISSIONER IN CHANCERY AND NOTARY PUBLIC, HARRISONBURG, VA.—Will give special attention to the taking of depositions and acknowledgments anywhere in the county of Rockingham. Will also prepare deeds, articles of agreement and other contracts on very moderate terms. ☞Office in the "Sibert Building," same lately occupied by County Treasurer, (up stairs.) [17-y

G. F. COMPTON,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, HARRISONBURG, VA., will practice in the Courts of Rockingham, Augusta and Shenandoah counties. Prompt attention given to collections, and returns made at once upon receipt. His connection with the Clerk's Office of this county will enable him to give valuable information to suitors and those interested in the records of this county. ☞Office at the Court-House for the present. june24-6m*

DR. W. O. HILL,
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON Office and residence, one door south of Revere House. All calls in town and country *promptly* attended to. jan10-y

DR. RIVES TATUM,
FORMERLY of the firm of GORDON, WILLIAMS & TATUM,) offers his professional services to the public. Office over the Rockingham Bank, where he can always be found when not professionally engaged. Calls left at James L. Avis' Drug Store proptly attended to. dec16-y

DR. FRANK L. HARRIS, Dentist,
MAIN ST., NEAR EPISCOPAL CHURCH,
HARRISONBURG, VA.
When convenient, patients will please make engagements in order to save time and disappointment to themselves. aug 26

DR. R. S. SWITZER, Dentist, HARRISONBURG, VA. ☞*Office near the Spring.* Will spend four days of every month in Mt. Crawford, commencing with the third Wednesday. [sep2-y

DR. D. A. BUCHER, Surgeon Dentist would respectfully inform the public that, having located permanently at Bridgewater, he is prepared to fill, extract and insert teeth, and perform their operations in his line.
☞Office, two doors south of Odd Fellows' Hall Bridgewater, Va. june11-tf

DIRECTORY.

CHURCHES.

METH. E. CHURCH, SOUTH—Rev. S. S. ROSZEL, Pastor. Services every Sunday, at 11 o'clock, A. M., and 7 P. M. Prayer-meeting every Wednesday evening. Sunday School at 9 A. M.

PRESBYTERIAN—Rev. J. RICE BOWMAN, Pastor. Services every Sunday at 11 A. M., and 7 P. M. Lecture every Wednesday evening. Sunday School at 9 A. M.

EMMANUEL—Protestant Episcopal—Rev DAVID BARR, Rector. ☞Divine service on Sunday at 11 A. M., and 7 P. M. Sunday School at 9 A. M. Lecture on Wednesday at 7 P. M. Bible Class on Friday at 7 P. M. Seats free.

BAPTIST—Rev. W. A. WHITESCARVER, Pastor.—Services first and third Sundays at 11 A. M.

LUTHERAN—Rev. JOHN H. BARB. Services 2nd Sabbath in the morning at 11 o'clock, and on the third and fourth Sabbath nights at 7 o'clock.

CATHOLIC.—Services 2d and 4th Sundays of each month. Rev. Father John Rielly, pastor. Services at 10½ A. M. Early Mass. Sunday School 3 p. m. every Sunday.

JOHN WESLEY CHAPEL—Colored Methodist—Rev. W. LEEWOOD, Pastor. Services every Sunday at 11 A. M., and 7 P. M. Prayer-meeting Wednesday evening. Sunday School at 9 A. M.

BAPTIST CHURCH (colored)—Services every Sunday, at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. Rev. Mr. GREEN, Pastor.

SOCIETIES.

ROCKINGHAM CHAPTER, No. 6, R. A. M., meets in Masonic Temple, Harrisonburg, Va., on the fourth Saturday evening of each month.
———, M. E. H. P.
L. C. MYERS, Sec'y.

ROCKINGHAM UNION LODGE, No. 27, F. A. M., meets in Masonic Temple, in Harrisonburg, on the first Saturday evening of each month.
JAS. O. A. CLARY, W. M.
L. C. MYERS, Sec'y.

MINNEHAHA TRIBE, No. 33, I. O. R. M., meets in Red Men's Hall, Harrisonburg, on Monday evening of each week. E. M. HOUSTON, Sachem.
J. K. SMITH, Chief of Records.

COLD WATER LODGE, No. 37, I. O. G. T., meets in Red Men's Hall, every Friday evening.
WM. J. POINTS, R. S. A. C. ROHR, W. C. T.

AHIRAM ENCAMPMENT, No. 25, meets first and third Thursday evenings, in I.O.O.F. Hall.
J. K. SMITH, Scribe. JAS. L. AVIS, C. P.

VALLEY LODGE, No. 40, I. O. O. F., meets in Odd Fellows' Hall, Harrisonburg, Tuesday evening of each week. C. T. O'FERRALL, N. G.
WM. A. SLATER, Secretary;

ALPHA COUNCIL, No. 1, SONS OF JONADAB, meets in Red men's Hall every Saturday evening.
G. O. CONRAD, R. S. W. E. LEMLEY, W. C.

VIGILANT COUNCIL, No. 3, Sons of Jonadab, meets in Red Men's Hall, every Thursday evening.
E. S. STRAYER, Sec. E. BRAILSFORD, W. C.

STONEWALL LODGE, K. P., No. 31, meets second and fourth Thursday evenings, in Odd Fellows' Hall.

B'NAI B'RITH.—Elah Lodge, No. 204, meets 1st and 3d Sunday of each month, at new Hall in Sibert building, opposite Spotswood Hotel.

VALLEY FOUNTAIN, No. 2, U. Order True Reformers, meets every Monday evening, at 8 P. M.
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HOPE FOUNTAIN, No. 5, U. O. T. R., meets every Thursday evening. HARRISON GREEN, M. F.

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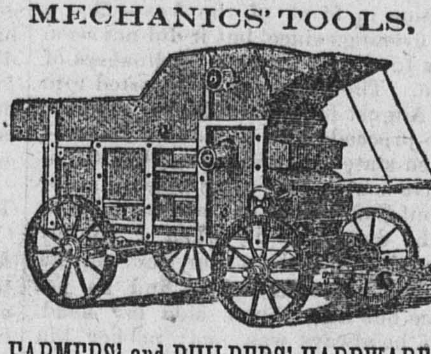

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" Gordonsville.....	1.10 p. m.	4 53 a. m.
" Charlottesville...	2.10 "	5.51 "
Arrive at Lynchburg,	5.30 "	9.15 "
Arrive at Danville.....	0 00 "	12.55 p. m.

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Leave Danville Daily	0 00 a. m.	3.00 p m.
" Lynchburg	9.40 "	8.30 p. m.
" Charlottesville	1.10 p. m.	12.02 a. m.
" Gordonsville	2.30 "	1.18 "
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Leave Staunton,	4.20 p. m.	4.15 a. m.
Arrive Goshen	6.15 "	5.48 "
" Millboro	6.40 "	6.09 "
" Covington	8.55 "	7.35 "
" Alleghany	9.58 "	8 30 "
" White Sulphur	10.20 "	8.42 "
" Ronceverte	11.00 "	9.07 "
" Hinton	1.15 a. m.	10.30 "
" Kanawha Falls	5.25 "	1.15 p. "
" Charleston	7.08 "	2.52 "
" Huntington	9.40 "	4.55 "
" Cincinnati		6.00 a "

EASTWARD.

Leave Staunton at	10:45 A. M.	10:20 P. M.
Arrive at Charlottesville	12:45 P. M.	12:07 A.
" Lynchburg	5:30 "	9:15 "
" Gordonsville	2:05 "	1:13 "
" Washington	7:40 "	7.40 "
" Richmond	5:40 "	4:45 "

Train leaving Staunton at 4:20 p. m., and 10:45 a. m. runs daily (except Sunday) stopping at all regular stations.

Trains leaving Staunton at 4:15 a. m., and 10:20 p. m., run daily, stopping at all regular stations between Huntington and Alleghany, and at Covington Millboro', Goshen, Waynesboro', Greenwood, Mechunus River, Ivy, Charlottesville, Gordonsville Junction and Richmond.

Sleeping cars run between Richmond and Covington on 4.15 a. m. and 10.20 p. m. trains.

TRAINS ARRIVE AT STAUNTON AS FOLLOWS:

Mail from Richmond, daily, (ex-Sun)........4.15 P M
" " Huntington ....10.35 A "
Express from Richmond, (daily)..............4 10 " "
" " Huntington, ...10.15 P. M

For further information, rates, &c., apply to JOHN H. WOODWARD, Agent at Staunton, Va.

CONWAY R. HOWARD,
Gen. Pass. and T. Agent.
W. M. S. DUNN, General Manager.
jan13-tf

HOTELS AND SALOONS.

THE SPOTSWOOD HOTEL,

Harrisonburg, Va.

C. B. LUCK, - - - - - - - - Proprieto

THE NEW HOTEL, The Spotswood, under the proprietorship of the undersigned, is now

Open and ready to receive Visitors

and guests. The establishment has been renewed and refitted from cellar to roof, and is in complete order. It is emphatically a new house, and it is determined to make it stand as one of the very best kept Hotels in the State. The proprietor has had very enlarged experience for fifteen years as a Hotel and Springs proprietor, having kept the old Columbian Hotel and the famed Spottswood Hotel, at Richmond, and the Jordan Alum Springs in Rockbridge. He is quite sure he may claim, here in the Valley of Virginia, to be able to keep a Hotel. He therefore invites the people of Rockingham and adjoining counties and the traveling public to call at the SPOTTSWOOD and see whether he understands the business of his life.

It is scarcely necessary to say that the table, the parlors and the chambers will always be found agreeable.

The proprietor, in conclusion, is quite sure the people of the Valley will cordially sustain this effort to establish a first-class Hotel, such as the Spottswood shall be, in Harrisonburg.

My Omnibus will always be ready to convey passengers to and from the Spottswood.

nov5,74-tf C. B. LUCK, Prop'r.

REVERE HOUSE,
(FORMERLY EFFINGER HOUSE,)
HARRISONBURG, VA.

This House has been thoroughly repaired and furnished throughout with new and tasty furniture. Is conveniently located to the telegraph office, banks and other business houses.

The Table will always be supplied with the best the town and city markets afford. Attentive servants employed.

The large and commodious stabling attached to this Hotel is under the management of MR. H. GATES.

MRS. MARY C. LUPTON, Proprietress.
CHAS. F. LUPTON, MANAGER.
J. R. LUPTON, } CLERKS.
G. B. STROTHER. }

*April 15 1y

A HEARTY WELCOME TO ALL!

The Pollock House,

between the Revere House and Spotswood Hotel, which has recently been fitted up, is first-class in all its appointments, and offers a hearty welcome to all.

—THE BAR—

has a fine stock of liquors of the best brands, cigars, &c. Among the liquors are the "Lye Oak Rye Whiskey," "Good as Gold, Bourbon," "Hennessy Cognac," &c.

IN THE RESTAURANT

every delicacy of the season, as well as substantials, can be had at all hours. OYSTERS, BIRDS and other game, served up in the best style at short notice.

S. W. POLLOCK,
sept30-t may 11 Supt. for Mrs. Mary Pollock.

THE MAGNOLIA!

BAR, RESTAURANT, and BILLIARD HALL, in the new building erected by Messrs. Richards & Waesche, Main street, adjoining Rockingham Bank, especially to suit the business.

Everything is in first-class order. The **BAR** is supplied with every variety of choicest Liquors,—domestic and foreign.

The **RESTAURANT** is in ample order, and meals furnished at all hours.

The Billiard Room

is newly fitted up, with entirely new tables of the latest models, and in charge of Dr. Sinclair K. Gray, who will show polite attention to visitors.

In short, the establishment is complete in every detail, and the patronage of the public is invited.

August 12 1875.

EVERYBODY invited to call and examine our stock of Men's and Boys

READY-MADE CLOTHING,

consisting of Overcoats, Talmas, Dress and Business Suits, Pants and Vests. We also keep a variety of fine

CLOTHS AND COATINGS,

Doeskin and Fancy Cassimeres, which will be sold in the piece or made to order to suit purchasers. Also, a fine stock of

HATS AND CAPS,

of the latest styles. A nice line of

NOTIONS,

Dress Shirts, Woolen Shirts, Drawers, Half-hose, Gloves, Cravats, Handkerchiefs, Suspenders, Pulsewarmers, Sleeve and Collar Buttons, Linen and Paper Collars, Cuffs, &c. We keep constantly on hand an assortment of RUBBER GOODS, and

TAILORS' TRIMMINGS,

all of which will be sold as low as they can be gotten elsewhere. Give us a call.

dec16 D. M. SWITZER & SON.

CHOICE GROCERIES!
New Crop New Orleans Molasses,
Porto Rico Molasses, various qualities;
Syrups from 50 cents to the best;
Granulated, Crushed and powdered Sugars;
Java and Rio Coffees, Green and Roasted;
Very Choice Green and Black Teas;
Crackers, Cheese, Maccaroni, &c., &c.,
Just received, and will be sold cheap by,
dec 23-1875. HENRY SHACKLETT.

A select assortment of Combs, Hair, Tooth, and Nail Brushes, Cloth Brushes, Hand Mirrors, Toilet Extracts, and a full line of toilet requisites, marked low down to suit the times, at
novll L. H. OTT'S Drug Store.

D. M. SWITZER & SON call special attention to their stock of Hats and Caps. oct

UPHOLSTERING, and MATTRESSES made any size on short notice. R. C. PAUL.